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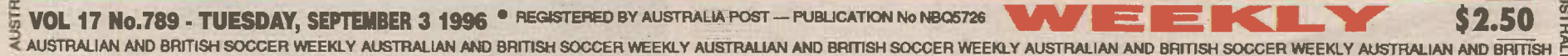
VOL 17 No.789 - TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3 1996 • REGISTERED BY AUSTRALIA POST — PUBLICATION No NBQ5726 **WEEKLY** **\$2.50**

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**POSITION
SECURED!**

Johnnie Walker Cup Kicks Off

American, Japanese and Scottish

Editorial

Can the dust really be settling on the Club logo issue?

One would really hope so. Has anyone won or lost? There's one thing, it stirred many former silent people into writing words on the issue. Everyone had an opinion but was it from an informed point of view?

Looking at the letters crossing the Editor's desk, there were some very intelligent arguments put both in favour of David Hill, and for the affected clubs.

We all had the opportunity to learn and to think as writers raised many relevant and interesting points.

The only comparable sports debate must be that surrounding the AFL mergers. Individual club supporters write with the same intensity as those willing to involve themselves in the Soccer debate.

It proves one thing, if nothing else and that is that many people in Australia have a brilliant grasp of how to effectively use the English language.

Hooray for that.

Management and Directors of clubs like Collingwood and Carlton probably wonder what they're getting into. However, they surely wouldn't be entering teams into the Ericsson Cup unless they could see a return for their members.

So at National League level it's on to the Johnnie Walker Cup. This time around being played as a 16 team, pre-season competition.

Perth Glory have decided to hold back. A South Australian selection, a composite team from Northern NSW and Brisbane Lions join the other 13 Ericsson Cup clubs. Should prove interesting.

Will Wollongong City miss their coach, Nick Theodorakopoulos who is away with the NSW Under 20 team in South Korea? Are Gippsland under Frank Arok going to be competitive? Collingwood will be interesting to watch, under Zoran Matic, with the elegant Milan Ivanovic rumoured to be joining his old boss from Adelaide City.

Are Sydney United really as bad as their results in Croatia indicate? Has Marconi's ill-starred trip to China done more harm than good to our reputation in that sleeping giant of Soccer?

Last year's Ericsson Cup of 33 games was hailed as a great step forward. Given that was the case then is the coming season's 26 matches a backward step?

Maybe there'll be more room for those mythical 12 home internationals a year, that Hill so fervently promised.

We need them in order to progress as a nation on the World's stage and to move up the FIFA Rankings. 50th is hardly a satisfactory spot for such a sports minded nation.

— Bob Brooks

INTERVIEW BY HENRY WIZGIER

It was a pleasure and a privilege to recently meet and interview Jim Weder, a man with some interesting connections in the top-echelon of the J-League itself and even FIFA no less.

Formerly on the technical Committee of the Japanese FA he is even a holder of a Scottish FA Coaching Certificate 'Level A'.

On top of that he writes for Japan's top football paper 'Striker'.

Jim Weder is Japanese despite his name. He was born in the States therefore speaks excellent English.

Henry Wizgier: What exactly is your position/role in Japanese football?

Jim Weder: I am now the Technical Director of the Youth Development section of Avispa Fukuoka Football Club - a member of the J-League. I am also a representative of the Inter-Change Program of the Coaches Association of Japan. I was formerly a member of the Technical Committee of the Japanese FA.

HW: Why have you chosen Australia and the Umbro Pacific Soccer Camps to bring your coaches?

JIM: Two things. Australia is a very popular destination for Japanese. There are many reasons for this. One, is the time difference.

HW: You mean there is hardly any?

JW: Yes ... that is what I mean. Then, Australia has a very good reputation in Japan from the safety level point of view.

HW: Yes, but why come here for Soccer coaching, it's hardly a world Soccer power?

JW: I know about Richard Alagich and his coaching methods. But also, you forget that Australia has a very high reputation in the world at youth level. At Under 17 and Under 20 and at Olympics, you are up to international standard.

HW: Have you read Richard Alagich's book 'Winning Through Technique and Tactics'?

JW: Yes of course. In

fact, I am presently translating it into Japanese.

HW: How did you hear about this book?

JW: Through my connections at FIFA. I personally know Walter Gagg (Director of Sports and Technique Division) and Joseph (Sepp) Blatter. Sepp, wrote the introduction for the book.

HW: To some people, it might seem a bit strange that for a country which imports Brazilian, Argentinian and European coaches you should be turning to a youth coach from Australia.

JW: These are good for our senior, professional players. But the fundamentals and the basics are all the same. Richard's book is fundamental. Someone said to me "oh this is an Australian book - it's no good," because Australia is not top international level. This is stupid. The basics for youth development are all the same, in Europe, South America, wherever. Richard's basics for youth coaching are of the highest level.

HW: In your capacity as representative of the JFA, would you also be looking at sites for the Sydney Olympics?

JW: No. But they have information because of course many Japanese J-League teams come here for pre-season camps. Australian facilities are well-known to us.

HW: The next World Cup Finals are less than 2 years away. To qualify, Australia will have to play the 4th Asian Team. Who do you think they are likely to be and how good are they?

JW: All Asian teams are so similar. They are quick and technical, Australian players are more physical. It's a different style. I cannot say who will be your opponents at this time.

HW: Japanese football used to be in a similar position to Australian, that is, a minority sport. You used to be dominated by Baseball and Sumo Wrestling. How did Japanese football manage to take-off so to speak, and what lessons are there for Australian Soccer?

JW: Our potential to do



Jim Selby (L), Jim Weder, Richard Alagich (R): Seal the deal at the Sydney Football Stadium recently.

business was a major factor.

Also the media. Satellite TV exposure means that we could watch all the top football action from around the world and learn from it. But it did not start there. We started twenty years ago with the Japanese Football League at amateur level. We spent twenty years, step by step but now, we get good Brazilian and European players and it's taken off. It did not happen suddenly.

HW: Is football now the

most popular sport in Japan?

JW: I think they are each as popular. For the older people, it is baseball. But, for the younger people, it's football.

HW: Hardly a week goes by here, without some young Australian player going to play in Europe. There are currently over 100 playing there. Why have J League clubs not realised the potential of buying Australian players?

JW: Good question. The J-League is a different type of football. The Japanese style is more technical and skilful whereas Australian players are more physical. But yes, there would be a chance for Australian players in some positions like centre backs and even some strikers. But at the

moment, the policy is to go to the top European and South American Leagues.

HW: Japan beat Brazil in Atlanta yet failed to progress past the group stage. However, Nigeria showed us that the European/South American domination can be broken at the highest level of World Football. When do you think Japanese football will be good enough to win something?

JW: It needs time. In Atlanta we beat Brazil but there was some luck there. We need more time and experience. Now, we are up to this level but we have to continue this development and effort particularly at youth level, just like Australia.

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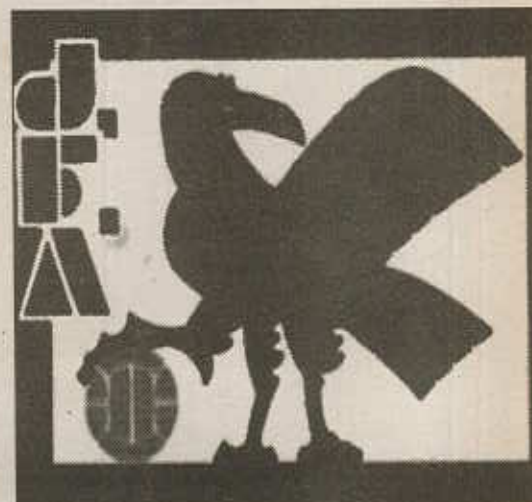
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Australian squad for South Africa

BY JOHN ECONOMOS

EDDIE THOMSON, (below right) Australia's national coach, last night announced a strong training squad of 21 players that will assemble today (Tuesday) at the plush Novotel Brighton Resort Sydney, in preparation for Australia's tour of South Africa next week.

Understandably no overseas-based Australian players have been considered by Thomson to make the South African tour as they all would have experienced enormous difficulties obtaining clearances from their respective clubs who have all just started their domestic leagues.

Australia has been invited to play three matches.

Thomson stated to ABSW last night, "We have been invited to play three matches spread over seven days, against Ghana, South Africa and the Congo next week.

"I relish having these matches made available to us as we need as much international opposition as possible before our World Cup qualifiers start.

"All three matches will be played within one week and all will be played in different South African cities

"With our domestic Cup matches being washed out last weekend, I just hope that the players I have selected are not too underdone.

"I have given the opportunity to many of them to show me what they can do for Australia right now," stated Thomson.

A surprise omission is Australia's long-serving World Cup captain and midfielder, Paul Wade.

Thomson has readily drafted into the Australian squad Marconi's exciting newly signed mobile midfielder, Craig Foster.

UTS Olympic's high scoring and 1991 World Youth Championship striker Kris Trajanovski, has been given his big chance by Thomson to break into the senior ranks of international Soccer

Melbourne Knights' Atlanta Olympic Games goalkeeper Frank Juric was not considered by Thomson for selection as the custodian has prior academic commitments.

Olympic striker to gain selection, the elegant Alistair Edwards, also was due to sit University examinations later this week.

But fortunately, Edwards who already looks very sharp at this stage, having done much of his pre-season training in Holland during the

break, was able to bring his examinations forward and completed them yesterday. He is studying at UTS for a degree related to sport.

Attacking left midfielder, also from the Knights, Danny Tiatto, was unavailable for selection as he is currently overseas somewhere in Italy.

But the Knights' giant skipper and driving midfield-enforcer Andrew Marth, has been recalled into the national squad following a highly successful season with the current Champions in the Ericsson League.

Sydney United's duo, towering goalkeeper Zeljko Kalac and cultured sweeper and captain, Tony Popovic, both back in Australia from England, have been included in Thomson's squad.

Kalac who last year was transferred to Leicester City for an Australian record \$1.7 million, has experienced difficulties in obtaining an extension to his British work-permit, whilst Popovic who was on trial with Wolverhampton and rejected the poor terms offered to him by the Wolves' management.

Thomson will hold his first, a two hour training session this morning (10am), at St George Stadium.

The Australian squad this afternoon, 4.30 pm, also at the St George Stadium, will stage a full scale practice game.

Australia's training camp breaks up this Thursday when Thomson cuts this squad down by three players to leave 18 that will travel to South Africa next Monday.



Paul Trimboli: In the Australian squad expecting to perform well against three African nations.



Milan Blagojevic: Cultured defender will probably be in the touring party to South Africa.

ANNOUNCEMENT

Due to technical difficulties this week's ABSW does not reach our usual standards

AUSTRALIA'S ITINERARY

Game 1: September 14th v Ghana, in Durban.

Game 2: September 18th vs South Africa, in Johannesburg.

Game 3: September 21st v The Congo, in Pretoria.

Australia's Training squad of 21:

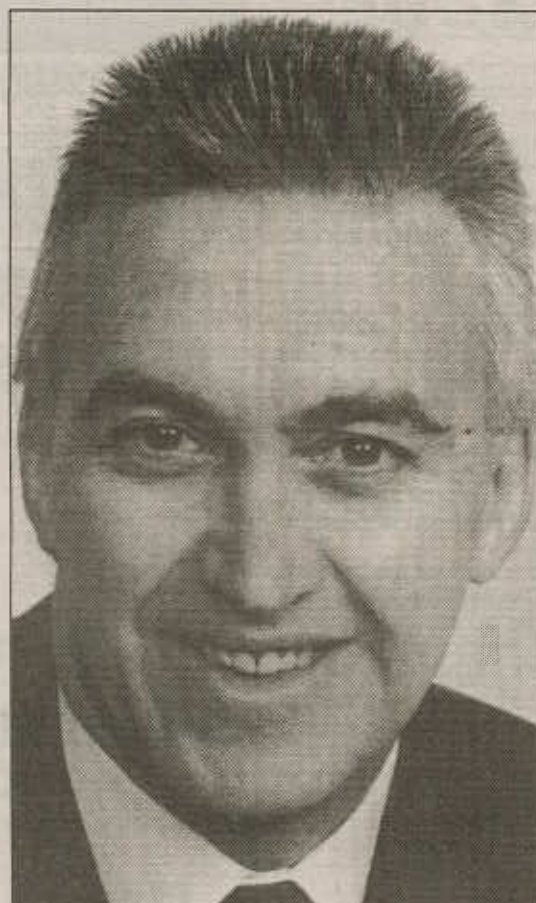
Goalkeepers: Jason Petkovic, Zeljko Kalac.

Defenders: Goran Lozanovski, Tony Popovic, Milan Blagojevic, Alex Tobin, Milan Ivanovic, Matthew Bingley, Robbie Hooker.

Midfielders: Sean Cranney, Ernie Tapai, Craig Foster, Alistair Edwards, Andrew Marth, Damian Mori, Jason Polak.

Strikers: Kris Trajanovski, Paul Trimboli, Joe Spiteri, Adrian Cervinski, Warren Spink.

Three of the above will be cut on Thursday night with only 18 travelling to South Africa.



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HOCKEYROOS PROVIDE FOOD FOR THOUGHT

Debbie Spillane in 'The Australian' recently wrote an interesting article where she examined what led to the Australian Women Hockey team's Gold Medal in Atlanta, we thought you would find fascinating.

There may be lessons for Australia's Soccer Coaches and Players.

On Tuesday night I was lucky enough to meet our gold medal-winning women's hockey team. Rather than talk about what they achieved in Atlanta, I was interested to find out what they did before Atlanta to make their Olympic victory so comprehensive.

No-one expects an Olympic gold medal to lob around the neck of an athlete without years of commitment and preparation. Exhausting physical regimes, personal sacrifice and mental toughness are ingredients usually discussed when Olympic success is analysed.

So I was fascinated to hear several Hockeyroos pay special credit to the detailed tactical work that went into their campaign. "We were the most tactically sophisticated team there," said midfielder Alyson Annan matter-of-factly.

The team began full-time preparation in January this year when they assembled in Perth to live the life, if not

receive the income, of sporting professionals.

They worked nine to five with just a couple of hours' break each day. The routine included such sessions as general fitness, weights, yoga, psychology, skills training and interval work. Each player was also required to do scouting of opponents and some tactical planning.

"I've never been in a team that had so much homework," admitted fullback Jenny Morris.

"And we had so many meetings that people were forever asking 'what on earth can you find to meet about so often?'"

During those months the Hockeyroos worked through a library of 130 videos of likely opponents. Each team member was allocated a tape per week to analyse. They were expected to familiarise themselves not just with teams' overall styles, set plays, strengths and weaknesses, but to make blow-by-blow notes on individuals.

They followed up with meetings where players and coaching staff compared notes and discussed counter-measures.

By the time they left for Atlanta they had condensed this to about three pages of notes on every team.

Opposing players were

listed with a synopsis of skills, weaknesses and idiosyncrasies. For instance, Annan explained, the team knew USA's Tracy Fuchs "drags to the left, frequently dummies over the ball".

In addition there were several pages mapping out the Hockeyroos' own tactics and set plays.

"We had 34 variations on the penalty corner," declared Annan, with obvious pride.

"As it turned out we only used about 10, but we drew confidence from having plans to deal with different teams and situations."

Annan says the Hockeyroos went to Barcelona having done some research but nothing as thorough as this.

And it didn't stop there. At the Olympics, Trish Heberley, of the coaching staff, was charged with taping other games and editing them into relevant highlight packages, a job often ending at 3 or 4am.

So how important was all this spade work? "I think we had the other teams pretty accurately assessed," said Annan with satisfaction.

Fellow midfielder Kate Starre added: "There's no doubt we were the most informed team Australia's ever had."

And so to the man behind this heavily researched and informed team, coach Ric Charlesworth.

When I sought an insight into his tactical philosophies he rejected the idea that he was a "tactical coach". "He play conceptually, not tactically," he declared.

"By playing conceptually I mean I like the players to have information," he explained.

"But only so they can develop into decision-makers. If, as a coach, you assign players to narrow specific tasks you develop narrow, specific players."

This explains why he involved players so heavily in scouting and analysing opponents. "I like to think I know what works, but I'd rather they think about it themselves. They remember their own ideas better."

A former national hockey captain with 227 internationals to his credit, a degree in medicine, a stint as a federal MP and some Sheffield Shield cricket experience thrown in, Charlesworth has all bases covered when it comes to coaching.

He is uniquely qualified to deal with administrators, players and staff. His record of just 10 losses from 115 matches reflects that, although he is not one to take results on face value.

He admits to "growing" his own list of statistics, because scores and results do not tell enough.

Particularly fond of what he

calls "non-glamour stats", measuring contributions like tackles, chases, presses, off-ball work and interceptions, he will tell you individual efforts in these areas are what force opponents into error. He can even tell you the combined total of all these should be around 110 for a game to be won.

Interestingly, he admits to keeping these statistics not just so he can analyse the result, but because he wants to make these "non-glamour" contributions important to the players.

Tactically sophisticated or conceptually well-developed, take your pick.

However you want to

describe it, the Hockeyroos put in more than long hours and physical effort for their gold. Although, and this is the beauty of a team sport, there is always someone prepared to pull the whole discussion down a rung or two.

Reproduced from 'The Australian'



Eddie Thomson & Les Scheinflug: Maybe they can learn some lessons from the detailed clowning done by Ric Charlesworth.

NSW MP — MORRIS IEMMA CALLS FOR SOCCER 'SUPER LEAGUE'

National Soccer League Clubs threatened with expulsion from the National League by Soccer Australia should form their own 'Superleague', Morris Iemma, the NSW State Member for Hurstville and Parliamentary Sec. to the Premier said today (22.8.96).

"Soccer Australia's proposals to expel Marconi, Sydney Utd and the Melbourne Knights are racist, discriminatory and strike at the very heart of our society's multicultural principles," Mr Iemma said.

The ethnic-based support enjoyed by these and other clubs are something to be proud of, celebrated and built upon, not destroyed in some crass merchandising proposal.

The simplistic and erroneous notion put forward by Soccer Australia that somehow clubs, by removing their ethnic identity, will be led to a golden age of success, flies in the face of soccer history.

"Where are clubs like Sydney City (formerly Hakoah), St George (formerly St George Budapest) and Leichhardt Tigers (formerly APIA)? They are all

former victims of previous efforts to 'de-ethnicise' Australian Soccer."

"Once removed from their Ethnic base, these clubs either faded into oblivion or now languish in irrelevant minor leagues, pale shadows of their former glories."

"The Argentine Football Association seems to have no problem in accommodating Newells Old Boys and Velez Sarsfield in its competition, clubs with an English and Croatian heritage. Nor does the Brazilian Association have any problems with the continuing existence of Corinthians, another club founded by English Pioneers and Jurventus with its obvious Italian origins. Similarly, the Italian Football Federation is relaxed about the existence of Verona Hellas in its first division."

What Soccer Australia want to do is remove symbols from Australian clubs that represent our multicultural heritage.

The heart of Club Marconi's logo is the boomerang. An indigenous Australian icon. In contrast, Soccer Australia's new babies, Perth Glory and Brisbane Strikers have names and symbols which are

nothing more than pale imitations of American sporting franchises."

If Soccer Australia persists with its racist proposals, then the clubs affected should form their own "Superleague" comprising - Marconi, Melbourne Knights, Sydney Utd, Sydney Olympic, Adelaide City, West Adelaide and South Melbourne from the current national league. In addition, clubs who were previous victims of earlier attempts at ethnic purging - Parramatta Melita, Melbourne Heidelberg, Melbourne Brunswick and a reformed APIA team should also be invited to join.

"Such a League would be a showcase of the cream of Australian Soccer talent, the clubs with the best support base and those with the largest membership, sponsors and licenced social clubs," Mr Iemma stated.

"It is these clubs and their respective supporters that Australian Soccer needs if Soccer is to reach its full potential and ultimately become Australia's leading football code." Without them, Australian Soccer will die.

Selected FIFA Rankings:

- | | |
|--------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Brazil | 26. Japan |
| 2. Germany | 36. Saudi Arabia |
| 3. Russia | 50. Australia |
| 4. Sweden, | 51. South Korea |
| 5. France | 67. United Arab Emirates |
| 6. Spain | 81. Qatar |
| 7. Italy | 95. Malaysia |
| 8. Argentina | 98. Singapore |
| 9. Colombia | 100. Burma |
| 10. Czech Republic | |

These Nations were taken from the full list of one hundred and eighty three countries.

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It's amazing what comes to light when you dig around in the corners of our wonderful game.

The World Game often seems to survive despite our own intentional, or so it appears attempts to sabotage it.

The NSW Waratah Cup worth \$50,000 to the winner is coming to a conclusion, and collision, with the Johnnie Walker Cup. Not only that but the three First Division NSW Clubs "lucky" enough to get to the Sixth Round were also trying to finish their competition.

Sydney Cosmos, Hills United and Bathurst 75 had to back up for Finals series games as well as the Waratah Cup. Will the part-timers find the energy to actually go to work during this period?



As a regular reader would be aware the Commonwealth Bank Bill Turner Cup is also nearing its climax, the semi finalists have been decided.

From 706 High Schools across New South Wales, N.E. Victoria and as far north as Cairns in Queensland just four have emerged. Nudgee College from the northern suburbs of Brisbane, Patrician Bros., Fairfield in the western part of the Sydney conurbation, Ryde's Holy Cross also from the Sydney area and Koorringal.

Koorringal High is situated in the NSW southern centre of Wagga Wagga. What a great achievement by these boys.

The whole city will be talking about them on radio, in the local papers and quite likely on Prime TV.

Well the boys have a real conflict because the NSW Soccer Federation have arranged an elite coaching and selection three day session at exactly the same time that the team will be in Newcastle.

Pity we can't co-ordinate

our activities. Maybe a compromise could be worked out?



From Victoria comes news of a team who until the beginning of August had had scored against them 144 goals in just 13 matches but still they turn up. At least they're in the news.



Again from Victoria. A team called Odda were playing the CFMEU Scotties. These Scotties must be real terrors because the match had to be abandoned when Odda were reduced to six players due to injuries!

By the way the Scotties were leading 4-0 at the time.



For those TV viewers lucky enough to have seen Michael Palin in 'Ripping Yarns', you will remember the story of his team's ground being taken over by a scrap metal merchant.

Well Palin's team, in name at least, continues in Melbourne.

Yes, Barnstoneworth United are still active. These days they play and provide money to Melbourne's Royal Children's Hospital and the Dandenong Palliative Care Service. More strength to your arm Barnstoneworth!

At least you probably don't go home after a loss and wreck the happy home.



The passage of a players career has its twists and turns and many ups and downs.

The reasons for retirement are various. One of the most peculiar came up at Blacktown City in NSW. An accomplished player had been at sweeper for most of his senior years.

In his younger formative days he had played as a striker. Suddenly he fancied his chances at Super League level, up front. His coach said sorry but your best position is in defence. So after a few games at centre forward it was back in defence.

The player threw a wobbly. He declared, 'No play up front then no play'. So he left the Gabbie Stadium.

Ah well!



Ralph Maier was recently forced into retirement by Newcastle Breakers not resigning him. Few would know but Ralph and Bobby Naumov used to travel to Blacktown from Newcastle two or three times a week for training when the Demons were in the National League.

This continued for about three years. The F3 wasn't fully in place then. The journey time was over 2 and a half hours each way. Now that's devotion.



Heard about a NSW Youth League coach at an ambitious club from the eastern suburbs of Sydney? He is a native of Argentina and by all reports damn good with the kids.

The team were fighting for top spot with two games to go. Out of the blue and apparently without explanation he was told to resign by one of the committee.

A tearful farewell took place. The team are mesmerised. The coach, a very quiet, modest bloke is devastated.

Surely he deserves a full explanation, as do the parents of the Under 16 year olds.



One of Parramatta Eagles 1996 signings has hardly kicked a ball for the club. Scott Ashton was looking forward to the new challenge after a couple of seasons at Blacktown.

Well some pain in the foot was detected as a bone spur

and Ashton had to have an operation.

He had only just resumed training as the season came to an end.



El Sedeag and Golden Lions, in Victoria recently had their match abandoned 'due to an anomaly with the goalposts'. Makes you wonder just what the anomaly was?

The two teams played a game but it didn't count.



Read in my local paper that a proposal had been put to the local district Rugby League committee to allow the sale of alcohol at their junior games.

According to the report some parents are turning up at 9am game with an esky full of grog anyway!



Back to the team with 144 goals against. They are RMIT and play in Division 3 North West of the Amateur Soccer Federation of Victoria.

In a recent game against Oak Park Dora United they had just ten players. Despite their losing streak neither RMIT nor Oak Park had a player booked. Good Sportsmanship prevailed.



NSW has a unique competition about to kick off. It involves teams from all over taking part in what is called the Champion of Champions. These are the winners of the local Association First Division comp all drawn against each other.

From Under 10 to All Age the excitement will be building. Traditionally for the First Round, Association winners from the Metropolitan areas travel to play in country NSW.

Blacktown, with over 5000 registered players, travel to the Far West at Dubbo to take on their champions.

CSI Schofield have four teams from Under 11 to Under 14 on buses. This is certainly an exciting time for young and older players.

One of the Sydney Associations will be challenging far South round about Broad. That's 10 hours by car.



According to reports Joe Spiteri is back in Melbourne having failed to impress the folks at Molineaux. He had been joined by Tony Popovic in the West Midlands of England but again no contact.

Hopefully the players have learnt why they weren't selected and work on that area to improve their overall



Joe Spiteri: Failed to make it at (English) Wolves.

performance.

Anyone got a copy of a coaching manual called 'Murray's Guide to Soccer Coaching' that they can spare? It has a photograph of Graeme Souness being tackled for the ball by the then Canberra NSL player Allan Bourke.

Allan would love to replace the book as it is to great importance to him. Someone borrowed it to get it autographed but misplaced it.

You can get Allan Bourke on 043 320 609.



Just heard that former NSL star Brett Thornthwaite is still playing. He is going round in the St George All Age competition, near Botany Bay.

You may remember that his father died at a match when Brett was playing in the NSL.



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**Friday September 13,
1996**

All correspondence to:

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One of Parramatta Eagles 1996 signings has hardly kicked a ball for the club. Scott Ashton was looking forward to the new challenge after a couple of seasons at Blacktown.

Well some pain in the foot was detected as a bone spur

Hill best there is, at the moment

Dear Sir,
To all the critics who are giving David Hill heaps of abuse including Johnny Warren who should know better, about removing symbols of European Nationalism, what do you suggest should be done to lift soccer to be number one code in Australia?

Unless the tooth fairy like Rupert Murdoch comes along and plonks 150 million dollars in Soccer Australia's lap like he did with rugby league and rugby union.

He has to start somewhere, admittedly getting rid of foreign logos on jumpers and elsewhere might not do a great deal in the short term, but it may in the long term, who knows.

The fact is Soccer Australia or NSL as it was called before has been going for 20 years as a national competition and still it only gets around 20 to 25 thousand spectators per round of matches every week compared to 180 thousand for rugby league and 250 thousand for Aussie rules.

Now when over half a million play soccer every

weekend at junior and senior level including social games, you have a potential audience of two to three million people.

If you count the family and friends of these players who don't play, something must be wrong somewhere and most people know what it is.

Like I wrote in a letter last week to the Daily Telegraph, if News Ltd had of put Rupert Murdoch's 150 million dollars into soccer instead of rugby league, soccer (football) would be the number one sport in Australia within three to five years.

Because you would be able to have a professional game in this country.

Anyway until a major benefactor comes along let David Hill have a go, he can't do any worse can he?

Personally the way I see it there is no quick fix unless you start all over again particularly in Sydney and Melbourne with Rupert Murdoch's money or someone like him.

Dominic Scullino,
Helensvale, QLD.

District based club's failure

Dear Sir,
I will try and put the arguments for and against ethnic soccer clubs vis a vis area or districts clubs in a manner that even the most simple and blinkered should understand.

Along Sydney's Parramatta Road stands a very modest and shabby enclosed soccer ground. There is no grandstand or covered area only some rows of elevated wooden seating.

The other available facilities can only be described politely as basic. The name of this ground is Garside Park which for many years until they went out of existence some years ago was the home ground of the Granville Magpies soccer club, founded 1881 Australia's first soccer club.

Although Granville existed for more than 100 years Garside Park and the abandoned social club nearby are the only visible traces of Australia's first soccer club.

In 1959 the Marconi Soccer club was born amongst the market gardens of Bossley Park which was not even a Sydney suburb then. From these humble beginnings

Marconi has grown into the biggest licensed club in the South Western suburbs and is one of the biggest in NSW.

Marconi's achievements on the soccer field have been well documented and speak for themselves. The defunct Granville club reached a peak in the nineteen twenties when according to informed sources they fielded a team which was as good as any of the best clubs of the post war and recent era.

Unfortunately Granville were unable to convert this on field success into building a strong enduring and well supported club.

The fact is that every attempt to create at least one strong, well supported and enduring broad based area or district soccer club in Sydney and most other places in OZ over the last 115 plus years has failed miserably and consistently.

The defunct Granville club and Garside Park are an enduring memorial to this failure. A visit to Garside Park by David Hill and the brains trust at S.A. would be very enlightening.

R. Melor,
Bondi, NSW.

Where do I sign up?

Dear Sir,
Can someone please write and let me know where and how I can become a member of the Australian Soccer Federation (and can the ABSW please print it). I really need to become a member so that I can make a vote.

Vote 1. If this country can't rid itself of this aristocratic British word "Soccer" then at least let us change the name of our codes governing body to, "The Australian Soccer Football Association".

The "ASFA" is not such a bad acronym. Who knows, one day the media may abbreviate that to the AFA.

ARL, AFL, AFA. I think the Australian public could get the hang of it, in time.

Mikel Ljubic,
Ashgrove, QLD.

Letters to the Editor

Have your say on any soccer issue in the world. Preference will be given to short letters. Include daytime phone number for verification.



The Editor,
AUSTRALIAN &
BRITISH SOCCER
WEEKLY
PO BOX 155,
MARRICKVILLE
NSW 2204
Fax: (02) 9550-9332

Short letters of about 400 words will be given preference in this column.

The opinions expressed on this page do not necessarily reflect those of this newspaper

Where's the market research?

Dear Sir,
At first I wasn't going to enter into the debate about the logo affair but now I feel compelled to make my point also!

First of all, is there real benefit in forbidding clubs their ethnic origin? Are we suddenly seeing mainstream "Aussies" buying Marconi shirts without those colours on the boomerang?

Is it going to be of much benefit for the future of the game in this country?

Well, this can only be answered if SA instigated a proper market research, or survey that will come with figures and estimations of possible economic windfalls.

If not, you only stir up trouble, as it has done and as the ABSW editor stated, to the detriment of the game.

I can just hear all those comments: "Those 'wogs' are at it again!"

Negative aspects of the game in this country will come to the surface again.

Instead, if we want more main stream support we should focus our attention on overseas ventures such as participation in Asian Cups (as in European Cups) where Australian clubs are competing, and, somehow represent their country. This was proposed some time ago by Henry Wiegier.

Why is SA not concentrating on issues that really matter instead of all these silly and petty arguments?

Wouldn't it be nice to have, say, four clubs representing Australia, competing in Asia?

For instance if Brisbane were to play a Korean club wouldn't Sydneysiders or any

Australian football lovers like to see them do well?

I think once these comps gain momentum here in this country we will get any Aussie behind those clubs, like it is in Europe.

Look at the success and crowd increase we had in Rugby Union when they started playing overseas teams such as Auckland and Natal.

Sponsorship will come from TV rights sold and this will lead to full-time professionalism even small clubs in England are receiving \$A4.4 million dollars from TV rights!

Look at the Australian teams e.g. Olyroos, when they play in real competition here, not friendlies, and the size of the crowds and media support.

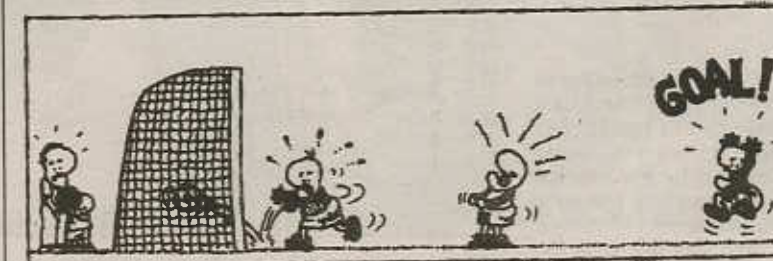
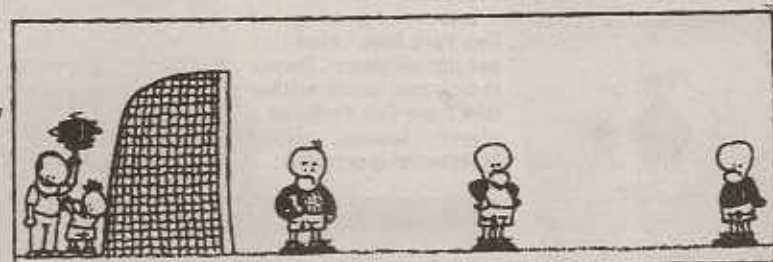
Believe me it is feasible, if we look, and concentrate, on these global aspects of the game. A club team playing an overseas opponent, home and away, for a prestigious cup (not as part of a local overseas competition such as Perth did) will lead to an increase in competitiveness in the local comp (e.g. NSL) as the first four teams get to play in an overseas cup competition.

I am sure we will then get more mainstream support with proper funding — sponsorship and full-time professionalism.

I cannot see anyone up to date making a concerted effort into this venture yet.

If it did happen who cares about a couple of colours then.

Gerry van Duuren,
UWS, Westmead, NSW.



ETHNIC ARGUMENT

Dear Sir,
I wish to merely state this, Soccer Australia's position on the logo issue is directed at hitting the deeper issues related to the ethnic clubs.

Honestly a few colours on a logo are not the real issue behind the S.A. marketing scheme. It has nothing to do with 'wog' this or 'ethnic' that.

Quite simply it is how the club's are administered. As long as out-dated prehistoric administrators continue to only target their own ethnic communities, the NSL will go nowhere.

If the idea of a Croatian flag painted on the Melbourne Knights grandstand is their idea of selling the club then they are gone.

The same with South Melbourne's determination to have the letters S.M.H. put on the seating, why not put the new name of LAKERS?

The Knights have the whole of the western suburbs to themselves about 1.5 million people, yet can't get 3000 people to their games.

Instead of falsely inflating crowd figures why don't the Knights go out and actually PROMOTE their club to the people of Melbourne?

Don't be so blind, the writing is on the wall, your club will go into

insignificance just like Preston and Sunshine did.

If you want that to happen then just keep going on the same way. And that my friends is the ultimate hardship to the loyal diehard fans of the club, not some logo that has links to a foreign land.

I and other fans have just about had enough of these clubs antics, before you label me a racist or something I was BORN in Greece and came to this wonderful country back in 1973.

If I want to be patriotic about my country of birth I go to a Greek function or something, not the soccer.

Greece cares little for you S.M. so why do you care about it?

Clubs should be afraid of Carlton S.C. Let me tell you that if South Melbourne do not make a big effort to broaden the clubs appeal I and others will be switching to Carlton.

Not only that but we would be willing to start a campaign to turn people away from S.M. and go to Carlton.

South Melbourne are you listening?

Don't be fools, wake up!
Peter Hatzifronou,
Springvale, VIC.

Live games on the box

Dear Sir,
As a very keen supporter of Australian Soccer, I get very annoyed when someone talks or writes nonsense about our great game.

In last week's ABSW 20/8/96, Frank Bradica said that no Soccer games were shown live on television last season. Well, that is not true, I watched three games live a week on Cable TV Optus vision, Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

Sir, I know that not everyone has or can afford

Cable TV but today Soccer is like other sports — big business. Soccer had to go where the big money is and that's why Soccer Australia went to Optus Vision instead of one of the free to air stations. I know that SBS were doing a fantastic job but other stations are too.

Finally, in my opinion, Mr David Hill is doing a very good job by spreading our game to all Australians and not a few.

Joseph Mizzi
Toongabbie, NSW.

Something unique in symbols

Dear Sir,
Why do Soccer Australia officials feel the need to further pressure teams to change symbols/logos? This issue has received much negative coverage from the media, and if it's not Tony Labbozetta trying to explain his situation, it's David Hill convincing Australians that Marconi, Melbourne Knights and Sydney United are the 'bad guys'.

Why is it obstinance that these three teams are trying to protect and maintain something they find symbolic to their team? These teams are not portraying or promoting foreign nationalism. They are trying to present people with a small picture of their history. They are trying to say 'this is what we have worked for and built up. It symbolises that if you can create something and truly support it and believe it, then it can be for everyone to be proud of.'

Perhaps Marconi, Melbourne Knights and Sydney United believe that the colours and symbols they currently use are the only ones that can properly present this message.

Though many may think this is naive and childlike, or pathetic and typical of someone trying to hold Soccer in Australia back in the 80s, I'm sure that this is what teams believe.

I think I have given a logical reason for why emblems should stay, Melbourne Knights, Marconi and Sydney United aren't trying to scare people off with their emblems, but present them with something as unique as they are.

Kaja Babic
Deer Park, VIC.

COMMONWEALTH BANK BILL TURNER CUP

TOP CROWD WITNESS QUEENSLAND SEMI FINALS

Supporters from Townsville, South West Queensland, North Brisbane and the Gold Coast turned up at Chris Green Park, Beenleigh to witness the final series of Commonwealth Bank, Bill Turner Cup matches to determine the states champion school which will contest the National series in Newcastle in September.

The first state semi finals saw Kirwan State High, Townsville matched against St. Joseph, Nudgee.

Speed was the essence of this game.

At half time a Kirwan official said that his boys hadn't played a team as fast as Nudgee before in their competitions.

This brought a chuckle as

most Cup officials thought that Kirwan was the faster side.

A complete mix up in the Kirwan defence saw Eddie Green sweep through and bring the best out of Troy Dattinger in the northerners goals.

A goal had to come and the bigger Brisbane lads notched a clever goal in the fourteenth minute when Eddie Green, again, finished off a penetrating move.

Kirwan unearthed a player of enormous potential in Darryl Hathway who repeatedly split the St Joseph side wide open.

For a lad so young he displayed remarkable talent for finding space out of nothing which in turn became a gaping chasm.

Unfortunately he was often a move ahead of his own team mates and opportunities went begging.

For St Josephs, Nudgee Steven Packer, Chad O'Donnell, Adam Bugeja and Grant Dickens were prominent.

Jon Marquez and Geoffrey Rowe made some great moves for Kirwan.

With just minutes from full time it was Mark Bagley from an original Hathway pass who swept in to lock the scores at one all and force the match into extra time.

The frenetic pace barely subsided and perhaps the long twenty hour bus journey from Townsville was taking its toll.

The pace and strength of the Nudgee College boys was seemingly becoming more

evident and a smart move from Chad O'Donnell to Eddie Green saw the ball creep over the line and into the goal.

This devastated the Townsville lads and the writing appeared to be on the wall.

Give up? Not on your life! However Grant Dickens took advantage of the heavy legs on the Kirwan boys to score a third goal.

With just ten minutes to go the Northerners got a new lease of life and spurred on by the effervescent Darryl Hathway pulled an excellent goal back when Jon Marquez finished off a great play.

The last four minutes saw Nudgee on the back foot and perhaps lucky not to see the match go into the dreaded penalties.



Parramatta Eagles: (back row L-R) G. Ellul (Manager), P. Lamaison (Physio), K. Grazdanovski, P. O'Grady, A. Welbeig, S. Nielsen, S. Lewis, J. Warburton (Captain), D. Watkins, T. Franken, S. Utjesenovic, D. Marton (Coach), T. Tome (Manager). (Front row L-R): R. Andrews, G. Attard, M. Leone, S. Giesen, M. Islas, G. Cannuli, R. Pourly, K. Josevski.

NSW Super League U/21 Grand Final Tribute

BY BOB BROOKS

Eagles led the second half of the season all the way. They won the overall competition by 12 points losing only two games, one in each half.

They scored 80 goals with just 22 in reply over 26 games.

The side is coached by former St. George ace goal scorer Dez Marton who is particularly proud of his young side.

The outstanding goalscorer was John Cannuli. Mark Leone, only 18 years old, was also goal ace. Daniel Watkins, just 16 also looks to have a great future, as a striker.

Outstanding throughout the season in defence for the 'junior' Eagles were Sasha Utjesenovic, Kire Josevski and Sasha Giesen.

With the Eagles senior

squad in the Waratah Cup on the weekend were Utjesenovic, Stuart Neilson, Geisen, Mauricio Islas and Canulli. These players joined David Harding and Nick Purdue who previously won promotion to the first grade during the season.

As Marton says, "The youngsters started to really understand the game and how to play as a team. Tactics such

as switching positions either in attack or defence to win week in and week out.

"James Warburton, as team captain, has carried out his duties to ensure the players have consistently performed to the top level.

"As coach I must say it was a great pleasure to work with them and guide them to this success."

PARRAMATTA EAGLES 3

JOHN CANNULI (2)

DANIEL WATKINS

LEICHHARDT TIGERS 1

ZAN KUKUCKA



Sound Win . . . Eventually

Windaroo Valley High got off to a great start against former 'giant killers' St. Josephs, Stanthorpe when Dean Ellis amazed everybody including his own team mates by slotting home a loose ball through a crowded penalty area.

From then on until the fifty first minute the two schools matched each other in strengths and skills that often drew gasps from the four hundred spectators at the "Chris Green Field", Beenleigh.

As previously reported in ABSW, this Stanthorpe side oozes skills, thanks to the coaching ability of Jim Armstrong and they certainly displayed them again against Windaroo.

However the Windaroo side had been well prepared by Rob Morris and his boys

also responded well with some outstanding skills.

In the final ten minutes Windaroo Valley had the edge and further goals from Dean Ellis and Joe Morris saw them run out 3-0 winners.



The Bill Turner

FINALS

All players and officials will attend the Mayor's reception at Lake Macquarie City Council offices in Speers Point on
Tuesday September 10 at 11.30am

6pm St Josephs, Nudgee (Qld) versus Holy Cross, Ryde (NSW)

7.30pm Patrician Bros, Fairfield (NSW) versus Koorringal High, Wagga Wagga (NSW)

**Wednesday September 11
Play off for third place
Losing Semi Finalists**

Presentations follow:

**7.30pm FINAL
— COMMONWEALTH BANK
BILL TURNER CUP**

All games Breakers Stadium, Birmingham Gardens

QUEENSLAND FINAL Winner to Newcastle

The final of the Commonwealth Bank Bill Turner Cup for Queensland schools was hard and tough.

St Josephs, Nudgee and Windaroo Valley play a similar type of game which at times has moments of magic but at others is quite boring.

The first fifteen minutes was full of thrills and an occasional spill as both sides desperately tried to assert their authority on the game.

It was that specialist 'goal poacher' Eddie Green that slotted home the first score of the match from an almost impossible angle.

The second fifteen minutes of the half was virtually played up and down the middle of the park and the good crowd had very little about which to cheer.

Both sides raised their tempo early in the second half when on the 45th minute Adam Bugeja tucked one

away for a 2-0 lead to Nudgee College.

It appeared by the way the game was being played that the 2-0 scoreline would remain. However with eight to go the Windaroo lads got their second wind.

Malcolm Van De Graaf was now really in the action bringing off some outstanding saves to deny the rampaging Windaroo shooters. He was beaten at last with a screamer from Mark Jensen.

But two minutes was not enough to get Windaroo back on level terms and the Nudgee boys were triumphant.

For Nudgee Grant Dickens, Gianni Culp, Van der Graaf were outstanding. Steven Packer could mature into a fine player and follow his two older brothers in the soccer scene.

For Windaroo Dean Ellis, another goal poacher, Joe Morris a player of the future, Kevin Hayes, Liam Kelly and

Jensen stood out.

PLAY OFF

In the play off for third place defeated semi finalists Kirwan State High from Townsville and St. Josephs, Stanthorpe played a very entertaining game where skills were the order of the day.

Kirwan who had now found their football legs proved a little too strong for the Stanthorpe boys and ran out winners by 3-1.

As expected Darryl Hathway was the man of the match. Others with good games were Jon Marquez and Kerry Cattle.

For Stanthorpe Jordon Tomasel, Paul Cavallaro and Joseph Scalia stood out.

Goal scorers were Hathway, Mark Bagley and Marqu and for St Josephs young Tomasel was the lone, but very popular scorer.

PRESENTATIONS

The Queensland Senior

Manager for the Bill Turner Cup David Donaldson was delighted to have presented for both days the State Marketing and Development Manager for the Commonwealth Bank Mr. Ron Lyons, Mr Gordon Arrowsmith Queensland Soccer Federation Director of Coaching and Mr Bill Turner.

All three took part in the presentation with Mr Lyons handing over the gleaming trophy to the winners.

A little fun was injected into the occasion as the very tall Jim Armstrong coach of St Josephs, Stanthorpe was presented with his medal by the moderately tall Bill Turner. Jim removed his ever-present ringers hat to make it a little easier.

The John Cleese, Ronnie Barker and Ronnie Corbett scene continued as the presentation was made to Santo Cavallaro who is on the short side.

ROCKDALE P.C.Y.C. INDOOR SOCCER COMPETITION

**'Five - a - side'
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**TEAM NOMINATIONS FOR
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Starting Mid September**

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Contact: DEZ MARTON**

**(02) 9556 3386 or (Mobile) 019 175 319
or Club 9567 0408**

THE JAPANESE AND SOCCER CAMPS

BY HENRY WIZGIER

What do young Australian soccer players do when they're not playing their chosen game?

Probably if you said they spend most of their time watching TV or travelling around the Internet, it is doubtful you'd be far wrong.

Of those who can tear themselves away from their electronic gadgetry, we've all heard many admit proudly to following Rugby League and Aussie Rules.

What do young Japanese footballers do? They take the time and trouble to learn and hone their skills. It's ironic that the country which invented Nintendo, the most futile and useless pursuit of all time, cleverly sells them to the west whose teenagers have been brainwashed into believing they are achieving something useful by mastering these idiotic 'electronic coconut-shys'.

Today's British kids are similar to their Aussie counterparts and perhaps it explains why their National teams can't win anything whereas it has taken Italians, Brazilians, French etc to ignite the Football League into a beacon which can now rival Serie A. The World Game began and took off in Britain mainly because kids went out in the streets and played football until it was too dark to see their tennis balls or rolled-up bits of newspapers anymore.

On Saturdays they played for a team in the morning and by 3pm were standing behind the goals of their favourite clubs - religiously come rain or come shine, watching, admiring and learning. Not taunting the visiting fans with silly chants and fists waving up and down to suggest what they do under the bedsheets.

Japanese kids can't play in the streets because there's no room with all the traffic, so they stay behind at school after classes where according to Richard Alagich who has coached there, young Japanese footballers really do spend virtually every spare minute training and playing Soccer.

And where do they go on their school vacations? Brazil, Europe and Australia!

But it's not the sand or surf



Richard Alagich: Coaching young Japanese footballers at Pacific Umbro Soccer Camps.

of the Riviera, Copacabana or Bondi Beach that draws them to those places.

It's a piece of grass about 100 metres by 70, otherwise known as a 'Soccer Camp'.

With the fortunes that can be made by Soccer players today, it's not surprising that a huge demand has been met by a supply of top-class coaching, through Soccer Camps all over the world.

The best known of these are run by Football Legends like Bobby Charlton and Zico in the premier football continents.

But the best-known and most popular Soccer Camp in Australia, can hold its own against those, according to the Japanese for whom the world is their very own oyster these days, thanks to the mighty Yen.

Umbro Pacific Soccer Camp in Sydney was a busy hive of Japanese footballing activity again recently.

Leading the first of three groups was Jim Weder, from Japanese J-League club, Avispa Fukuoka who had chosen Australia and the Umbro Pacific Camp in particular, to bring 26 Japanese Youth Coaches to gain their Level 1 and 2

Coaching Certificates under the tutelage of Richard Alagich and Goalkeeping Instructor Fred Wall.

A week later, two more Japanese groups arrived. 30 boys aged 16-18 came from the Kusatsu Higashi High School near Osaka, one of Japan's top football playing High Schools.

For the many Australians who are not impressed unless a team bears the name of Brazil, Italy or Argentina, let me inform you that the National High School Football Tournament is so big in Japan, that the Final is televised nationally!

The third group at the Camp consisted of 10 Coaches from different High Schools in the Kyoto area.

Officially described as a 'site inspection of soccer training and accommodation venues' it was a reconnaissance for the purpose of bringing teams to train under the master in March and August next year, the Japanese School holidays.

They were very impressed with what they saw, and left with a promise that they would return in '97, bringing with them about 200 Japanese football-playing students for

what is becoming an increasingly popular way of spending their school vacation. They all came to learn from the Aussie youth coach whose reputation in Japan seems to be growing faster than in his homeland.

The highlight of the program, was Kusatsu High's matches against two Aussie teams. First, New South Wales' top youth side Warringah Dolphins and then one of Australia's premier Under 16 teams - Marconi.

For the record, in both games the result was a comfortable win for the Japanese. Richard Alagich has noticed remarkable improvements in young Japanese players techniques during the short time he has been involved in coaching them.

"When I first went there to coach, they were a bit naive tactically," he said. "But their enthusiasm to learn and commitment were unbelievable and it's already showing in their tactical play!"

This same enthusiasm and commitment which is so lacking in young Australians.

"The young Japanese footballers are out there training five or six nights a week. A lot of young Aussie players think that three nights a week is too much. We have talent but there are too many distractions," continued Alagich who also lists a high regard and respect for the coaching staff as one reason why he believes that at this level, they have caught up with us.

It is said that the proof of the pudding is in the eating and the Japanese high-intensity learning is already beginning to show dividends.

In Atlanta, just a matter of weeks ago, the Japanese defeated Brazil's Olympic team (which included Bebeto and two other over-age players) with a team of young players, because they insisted on using the same squad who got them there.

Although like us, they failed to qualify from their group - they only did so by marginal goal difference and



Master (in hat) and Pupil.



Instruction on shielding the ball.

they did have the winners Nigeria in their group as well as Brazil. We failed miserably in a weaker group and blame Thommo and Scheinflug for their tactical incompetence.

Maybe the answer lies in the empty pieces of grass around our suburban schools and in the parks outside of school time.

We pride ourselves on our youth football yet have won nothing. The Africans have gone way past us and Nigeria and Ghana virtually dominate World Youth tournaments.

It may not be long before the Japanese followed by a stream of Asian nations go sweeping past as well, making a mockery out of

Australian footballers traditional strength in physique and fitness.

For those of you who think it's only a game be reminded also that in Tokyo and Osaka you can walk the streets safely at night. Why? Because the kids are in bed having studied hard and kicked a round bit of leather about afterwards.

TASMANIA WREST POINT LEAGUE

25/8/96

Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
White Eagle	16	11	1	4	56	25	34
Devonport	15	9	4	2	52	25	31
Olympia	16	9	2	5	34	34	29
Hobart Juventus	15	8	2	5	38	31	26
Launceston Juventus	15	8	2	5	32	25	26
Croatia Glenorchy	15	8	2	5	36	33	26
Caledonian	15	4	5	6	30	37	17
Riverside Olympic	16	4	2	10	28	43	14
South Hobart	15	4	2	9	26	41	14
Launceston	16	1	0	15	18	56	3

Lotto Leading Goal Scorer: A. Guilbert (Devonport) 23; B. Lakoseljic (Croatia) 17; T. Carson (Olympia) 15; R. Leszczynski (White Eagle) 15.

Olympia	5	Riverside Olympic	0
Launceston Juventus	6	Caledonia	1
Croatia Glenorchy	3	Launceston	1
Devonport	5	South Hobart	0
White Eagle	2	Hobart Juventus	0



QUEENSLAND

XXXX League



QUEENSLAND SOCCER FEDERATION Perry Park, Abbotsford Road, Mayne, Queensland 4006 Phone: (07) 3252-5327 Fax: (07) 3252-1137

LIONS ROAR TO GRAND FINAL VICTORY

GLENN DAVIS

Brisbane Lions achieved their second golden double of the decade when they accounted for an unlucky Brisbane City 2-0 in the Fourx Soccer League grand final at Perry Park on Sunday.

The result also provided Brisbane Lions coach Miron Bleiberg (right) with a personal milestone since his sacking as Brisbane's national league coach when the Strikers were first formed three years ago.

Bleiberg, who was previously in charge of the now defunct Brisbane United, has only coached in the Fourx League for two and a half seasons, yet in that time he already has won the premiership-grand final double twice with North Star and now Brisbane Lions.

Lions, who clinched the premiership this year, ironically in the final game of the season against Brisbane City, last won the double five years ago.

This year's grand final trophy came through stout hearted defence after surrendering an avalanche of possession to Brisbane City, particularly in the first half, before eventually burying two goals against the run of play.

Lions went to the half time break with a 1 goal lead after midfielder Roy Huth chipped Brisbane City keeper Daniel Duke from 25 metres after 32 minutes.

The goal came after Brisbane City had monopolised possession from the opening whistle. City nearly got off to a dream start

after only five minutes when midfielder Cameron Pearse botched a simple chance from less than three metres, shovelling his attempt over the crossbar in front of an open goal.

Striker Ian Hutchinson also missed a chance on 19 minutes when fellow forward Warren Cooley laid a header across the goal face for him who pivoted and rifled his shot over the bar. It took Lions 30 minutes to register their first serious shot on goal when a frustrated midfielder Cliff Tuck snapped a 30 metre drive which forced Duke to save with an outstretched hand low to his right.

City almost started the second half disastrously when two minutes in, midfielder John Schiavo played a lazy ball which was intercepted 20 metres out by Huth, who fortunately for City, was off target with his attempt.

City recovered from the near fatal setback and again started to dominate but couldn't penetrate the stiff Lions defence.

City Coach, Peter Tokesi made a double change on 58 minutes injecting striker, Lee Scriggins into the game for Hutchinson and midfielder, Shane Haddow for Schiavo.

However, Lions showed just why they had previously gone 17 matches without defeat including 16 wins, by withstanding a barrage of attacks.

Warren Allen sewed up the Grand Final for Brisbane Lions in the 75th minute when he shaped up to take on two defenders from 25 metres out, but instead lashed in a shot which beat Duke's outstretched hand.

— BLEIBERG TAKES SECOND DOUBLE —



For Brisbane City it was simply a case of not putting away its chances, resulting in successive grand final defeats for the club following last year's surrender to Rochdale Rovers.

City Coach, Peter Tokesi, who indicated he would not be seeking the position again next year due to Brisbane Strikers' commitments as assistant coach to Frank Farina, believed his team threw the final away.

"We should have buried them in the first half when Cammy Pearse and Hutcho missed those two fairly easy chances," Tokesi said.

"I couldn't believe how we let in the second goal when our defenders just stood off and watched Allen shoot."

Bleiberg, who now has to lift his side for the Johnny Walker Cup knockout against the Strikers at Perry Park next Sunday, acknowledged Brisbane City played better.

"I can't say we played better than Brisbane City, but it was typical grand final football and we did the job," Bleiberg said.

"We're a strong efficient side, that's why we've now gone 18 games undefeated and won 17 of them."

Bleiberg said he had told his players to be patient and

above all not to concede.

"I predicted they would go out and attack us and our aim was to get them on the break," he said.

"I told the guys if they don't concede they wouldn't lose."

Bleiberg said he was looking forward to the match against Brisbane Strikers, with the first round clash scheduled

for Perry Park next Sunday. The return leg is the following Sunday at Lions' home ground, Richlands Stadium.

"Quality wise the Strikers are a better side, but they will be saying that we are more cohesive because we've been playing all winter," he said.

"But I'd like to think we have a better coach."

QUEENSLAND GRAND FINALS

XXXX LEAGUE

Brisbane Lions 2 Brisbane 0

XXXX RESERVES

Brisbane Lions 0 Coalstars 2

XXXX YOUTH

Grange Thistle 2 Wynnum Dist 1 AET

DIVISION 2

Olympic United 1 Mt Gravatt 3

RESERVES

The Gap 0 Rocklea United 3

DIVISION 2 YOUTH

Willowburn 2 Albany Creek 1

DIVISION 3

Mitchelton 3 Newmarket 4

DIVISION 3 RESERVES

Newmarket 1 Redlands United 3

DIVISION 4

South Star 0 Moggill United 3

DIVISION 4 RESERVES

North Pine 2 Redcliffe City 1 AET

DIVISION 5

Acacia Ridge 1 Jimboomba 0

DIVISION SIX

Margate 2 Park Ridge 1

DIVISION 7

Margate 0 Uni of Qld 2

DIVISION 8

Bethania 0 Samford 2



Warren Allen: Lashed in a twenty five metre drive which sewed up the Grand Final win for Brisbane Lions.

QUEENSLAND SOCCER FEDERATION



GRANGE THISTLE

Northern New South Wales

Steel City Sign Ironside

BY DANE SKAFTE

Newcastle Breakers announced last week the signing of former New Zealand International Robert Ironside. He joins the Squad for the start of the Ericsson Cup Season.

The 29 year old midfielder will add valuable experience to the Club, as he played 62 times for New Zealand, 25 of them as Captain.

Ironside has played the last eight seasons with Sydney Club, UTS Olympic. He hasn't played much football over the past season due to several niggling injuries which he sustained overseas.

Ironside had a knee operation four years ago after having a flat spot removed from his right leg.

"I am very pleased to be playing for Newcastle. I needed a new challenge. I have played with Olympic for the last eight years.

"I still had one year of my contract left with the Sydney based club, but Olympic agreed with the clearance and I have now signed for one season.

"Hopefully it will be longer if everything works out."

Ironside will still live at North Ryde in Sydney and



Robert Ironside: Signed for Breakers.

will travel to Newcastle to train and play.

"I have played against several of the Breakers players including Jason Bennett, Troy Halpin, and David Lowe, so I will be familiar with a few faces."

The Northern New South Wales Soccer Federation has announced the team to play against Newcastle Breakers in the Johnnie Walker Cup. The team is to be coached by the Federation's Director of Coaching, Ken Kaiser.

The tie will be played as a two legged home and away game. The first game being the Federation's home match at Edgeworth Oval on Thursday September 12. The Breakers home match will be played at Breakers Stadium on Wednesday September 18. The Federation Team is a combination of players with National League experience and players that have been outstanding in the Federation's NBN League.



Ralph Maier: In the NNSW Squad to play Newcastle Breakers in the Johnnie Walker Cup.

NNSW SQUAD

Peter Oberhauser	Weston Workers Bears
Dean Howard	Weston Workers Bears
Ian Tressider	Weston Workers Bears
Jamie Wile	Weston Workers Bears
Justin Kavanagh	Weston Workers Bears
Dean Conway	Deloraine Eagles
Danny Gordon	Deloraine Eagles
Bobby Namouv	Deloraine Eagles
Cameron Wallace	Deloraine Eagles
Wayne Bailey	Highfields Wolves
Howard Tredinnick	Highfields Wolves
Cameron Hudson	Adamstown Rosebuds
Neil Owens	Adamstown Rosebuds
Jim Cressnar	Wallsend Red Devils
Benn Lane	Hamilton Warriors
Ralph Maier	Northern NSW

WARATAH WASH OUT IN NEWCASTLE

Highfields Wolves, after psyching themselves up for their Waratah Cup match with Newcastle Breakers suffered the depths of disappointment on the weekend.

The heavy rain which fell in the Hunter, and all up the NSW east coast on Friday and Saturday, caused Whitebridge Oval to be unplayable.

The Wolves after coming from the NBN First Division competition to dispose of NSW Soccer Federation Super League outfit Adamstown

Rosebud, felt that with nothing to lose they could give John Kosmina's team a real battle.

The Wolves and the Breakers will now join battle on Thursday September 5 at 7.30pm. The venue is once more Whitebridge Oval.

With the Ericsson Cup team only just coming into full training then the underdogs could cause an upset. After all there is a very worthwhile prize for the eventual Waratah Knockout Cup winner and that is \$50,000.



Matt Austen: Hamilton Warriors defender trialling with the Breakers.



Mark Wilson: Highfields Wolves player knocking on the Ericsson Cup door.

ILLAWARRA PREMIER LEAGUE

BY PHIL MURPHY

Two premier league clubs have expressed an interest in gaining promotion to the State Super League if Illawarra Lions are forced to pull out.

There have been rumours that the Lions could struggle to hold their place in Super League and Soccer NSW have made it clear they want a Wollongong club in the league.

Soccer NSW General Manager, Peter Thorne told ABSW the Lions do have problems and had been "called in" to discuss them recently.

"We have told them to go away and assess the situation," Thorne said.

"At the moment the Lions are still a member of NSW Super League."

"There have been Premier League Clubs in Illawarra who have put out feelers about a place in Super League."

Port Kembla and Cringila are seen as prime contenders because of their support.

President Vince Raschilla said his Port Kembla board were to discuss a possible move at last night's meeting and members will have their say at the AGM in November.

Raschilla said if they went to Sydney, Port Kembla would seek to play home games at Brandon Park which was located close to their major sponsors, Fraternity Club.

Cringila President, Naume Janeski said his club need to complete extensive improvements to their ground before they could consider going to Sydney.

"We have done a lot of work at Crehan Park but still need to complete our grandstand," Janeski said.

ISA President, Norm Flanagan said he could see Premier League Clubs being promoted in their future but they would need to be prepared.

Lions President, Paul Matters said his club had been hampered on the field by a lack of Super League standard players.

He said they needed some kind of dual registration with the ISA.

"It is difficult for a player to knock back as much as \$120 a game in Premier League with us to play in our under 21 side for nothing," Matters said.

"With dual registration, players could come up from Premier League when they were needed to play in our senior side."

"This is going to be a problem no matter what Illawarra club is playing in the Premier NSW Super League."

Big interest in who will take over from Casey de Bruin as Coach of Premier League champions, Lysaghts.

De Bruin has quit Lysaghts after two very successful seasons to take on the high-profile role as Head Coach with the NSW Institute of Sport.

As he will remain Director of Coaching at Lysaghts, De Bruin will obviously have some input into the selection of his successor.

Gerry Walker has been his assistant this season and he would be a possibility while current first grade captain Phil Matias could be a "starter".

Lysaghts officials have made it clear they will be making a decision soon after the Grand Final.

Because of the heavy rain, the Balgownie-Coniston game was the only Premier League fixture played over the weekend.

On a surprisingly good surface at Judy Masters Oval, Coniston had a big territorial advantage but went down 4-1.

Glen Smede (2), David Clarke and John Demasi scored for the home team with Vlado Jankulovski replying for Coniston.

Balgownie scored two quick goals to lead 2-0 after 16 minutes but Coniston pulled a goal back before the interval.

Striker Smede found the net twice in just 10 minutes towards the end after Coniston had become frustrated at the other end.

The association have decided to hold over the remaining five games until Saturday week - a spare weekend.

That means this weekend's round will go ahead as planned.

The draw: Wollongong Olympic v Balgownie, Coniston v Cringila, West-Figtree v Bulli, Dapto v Fernhill, Westderra v Port Kembla, Lysaghts v Northern United.

Points table with Balgownie and Coniston have played one extra game: Lysaghts 50, Port Kembla 40, Bulli 32, Wollongong Olympic 31, Fernhill 29, Cringila 28, Balgownie 28, Dapto 27, Coniston 23, West Figtree 22, Northern United 17, Westderra 12.

The ISA will stage their second division semi-finals on Friday night. Warilla Wanderers will take on Oak Flats in a local derby at Wetherill Park while Woonona meet Berkeley at Judy Masters Oval.

The second division, first division and Premier League Grand Finals will be played at Brandon Park providing recent renovation work is completed.



NSW SOCCER FEDERATION

WEEKEND OF WASH-OUTS IN FIRST DIVISION

FEDERATION DIVISION ONE	1ST	U/21
Hills United v West Wanderers	3-3	2-2
Southern Minotaurs v Sydney Cosmos	0-2	4-2
Ryde City v Belmore Hercules	P/P	P/P
Penrith Panthers v Mt Druitt Town	5-2	4-0
Auburn Utd v Dulwich Hill	5-0	5-3
Mt Pritchard v Fairfield Bulls	1-2	2-1

DIVISION ONE — FIRST GRADE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
Sydney Cosmos	26	15	8	3	51	18	53
Belmore Hercules	25	12	9	4	61	33	45
Ryde City	25	12	9	4	46	20	45
Bathurst '75	25	11	9	5	39	26	42
Auburn United	26	12	6	8	64	63	42
Hills United	26	11	8	7	47	35	41
Penrith Panthers	26	10	6	10	52	50	36
West Wanderers	26	9	6	11	45	52	33
Sthn Minotaurs	26	8	6	12	34	47	30
Fairfield Bulls	26	8	5	13	41	46	29
Stanmore Hawks	25	7	7	11	36	40	28
Mt Pritchard	26	5	8	13	30	45	23
Dulwich Hill	26	6	4	16	27	57	22
Mt Druitt Town	26	5	7	14	31	72	22

UNDER 21

Ryde City	25	17	5	3	81	26	56
Penrith Panthers	26	17	4	5	62	26	55
Hills United	26	16	3	7	68	39	51
Mt Pritchard	26	15	5	6	71	41	50
Fairfield Bulls	26	13	5	8	54	31	44
Auburn United	26	13	5	8	61	47	44
Sydney Cosmos	26	13	4	9	56	43	43
Sthn Minotaurs	26	14	1	11	59	52	43
Bathurst '75	25	8	6	11	49	45	30
West Wanderers	26	8	5	13	45	51	29
Stanmore Hawks	25	8	1	16	35	63	25
Mt Druitt Town	26	4	5	17	23	73	17
Belmore Hercules	25	4	3	18	28	90	15
Dulwich Hill	26	2	4	20	19	84	10

DIVISION TWO FINAL SERIES

PRELIMINARY FINAL

1ST GRADE

Sydney Districts v Alexandria Warriors 1-2

UNDER 21

Concord Juniors v Parramatta City 0-2

UNDER 18

AC United v Parramatta City 4-0

FEDERATION DIVISION THREE

GRAND FINAL

FIRSTS

Moorebank Sports v Glebe Wanderers PP

SECONDS

Glebe Wanderers v Moorebank Sports PP

FEDERATION DIVISION FOUR

GRAND FINAL

FIRSTS

Arncliffe Scots v Fraser Park PP

SECONDS

Marrickville Reds v Springwood PP

Tired Marconiromp home

Marconi Fairfield put the turmoil of the last month behind them with an encouraging beginning to the new season.

On a windswept Greenway Oval in the Canberra suburb of Tuggeranong, Marconi humbled local team Western Creek 9-1 to advance to the quarter finals of the 1996 NSW Waratah Cup.

Marconi had returned from an exhausting tour to China on Thursday in which they lost their only two games and went into the match looking tired and facing a very cold and icy afternoon.

However, running with the aid of the strong wind which was more like a gale in the first half, the Fairfielders soon asserted their authority with a three goal lead in the opening 15 minutes.

Vlado Zoric, Sean Babic and Jean-Paul De Marigny all scored superb goals, but the scoring did not stop there with Marconi continually on the attack and Western Creek unable to offer much resistance.

Brendan Renaud, Brad Maloney and Matthew Bingley also chipped in with first half goals.

The home side looked more positive after the break but when Andy Harper scored from the penalty spot, Renaud slotted home his second and Harper notched another, it looked like it would result in a double figure score.

But the home side fought on and received the biggest cheer of the day in the dying minutes when the Lazzari brothers, Martin and Steve combined, with the latter heading a cross past Marconi keeper, Les Pogliacomini.

The poor weather forced cancellation of all other Cup fixtures scheduled for the weekend and the seven remaining games are to be played midweek.

Heavy rain in Sydney decimated the First and Second Division programme at the weekend. Thankfully two games had already been completed in midweek.

With the first set of semi-finals scheduled for this coming weekend, it could not have come at a worse time and it is ironic that, at least in Division One, this is the third time that these matches have been affected by the elements.

Originally programmed as Round Nine and completely washed out, the second time around all but one of the matches was completed at the appointed time, most having to be reorganised closer to the end of the season.

S. MINOTAURS 0

SYDNEY COSMOS 2

Southern Minotaurs, therefore, found themselves playing Sydney Cosmos twice in a fortnight and each time at the St George Stadium.

The second time around Cosmos had reached their goal of winning the premiership, while Minotaurs had avoided the nether regions of the First Division ladder.

It was something of a training run for both sides, in approach, but Cosmos got the 2-0 win to avenge a 1-0 reversal on the same ground earlier.

This time a 22nd minute goal from Grant Lee who was on hand to tidy up after Gerry Gomez had flicked the ball back from a corner put the premiers ahead.

Darren Ioacca fired them further in front after 33 minutes with a powerful shot from 20 yards out and from then on it was never going to change much.

HILLS UTD 3

WEST WAND 3

The other game on Wednesday night was under lights at Fred Caterson Reserve, Castle Hill, where Hills United really needed a win to ensure a top five placing.

They were up against the mercurial West Wanderers, a team they had beaten at Chopin Park 3-1 earlier on.

Hills managed three again this time, well above their normal average, but unfortunately for them, so did Wests, who had nothing to play for.

Hills were in control early and eventually took a 22nd minute lead through Keir Suggett's brilliant header.

Wests were playing good football and a cracking shot from flankman Mark Higgins brought them level with Hills in the 34th minute.

Chris Giometti had been under an injury cloud, like his brother Rick, but started the game while Rick



remained on the bench.

The former lasted only a fraction of the game and was replaced by his brother who engineered the equaliser, combining with the promising Trent Worrall.

When Wanderers' keeper Chris Duffett was caught off his line at the one hour mark and Luke Allshorn took advantage of the mistake Hills had the lead again.

Wests fought back to draw level through an individual goal by Rick Giometti and then forged ahead as Liam Gibbes found himself unmarked on the six yard line.

Hills were not spent yet, however, their player-coach Lawrie McKinna getting them off the hook with a 74th minute header to salvage a point.

It was a game of thrills with some spectacular goals and almost as many close shaves.

On three occasions Duffett helped Hills shots onto the bar and over, two from John Faulkner, the other from Allshorn.

Terry Ide made many fine saves too at the other end, once diving full stretch to block a 40 yard shot from Shane Crampton.

The point left Hills short of Bathurst on goal difference and only one ahead of Auburn who were due to play four days later, before the heavens opened.

TRAGIC DEATH

OF WARREN GRONAU

Stanmore's Friday night affair with Bathurst was to be of lesser importance after the draw and the team from the west were certain of a spot in the elimination semi-final.

The Ryde versus Belmore was called off which was a relief for the Ryde players, who knew nothing was at stake, but were reluctant to play so soon after the passing of one of their number, Warren Gronau, who died at RPA Hospital on Wednesday, just a few days after being admitted following a period of dizzy spells and bad headaches.

His tragic death has hit the club hard as he was in the side as recently as its last home game with Bathurst and had been a linchpin of the defence for the past two seasons.

A full tribute to Warren

Gronau will follow next week.

His funeral was held at St Andrews, Eastwood on Monday and a function to celebrate his life and achievements was organised at the T G Millner Field club house, with the kind co-operation of the Eastwood Rugby Union club.

MT. PRITCHARD 1

FAIRFIELD BULLS 2

Sunday's matches were all set under a cloud, literally, for several days, once the rain set in and many were expecting a complete wash-out and doubts about the scheduled staging of the finals series.

As it happened, they all went ahead, at least in 1st Grade, with spectators huddling under umbrellas, though at Cook Park, at least, where Mount Pritchard played Fairfield, the rain stayed away for the game itself and the pitch measured up remarkably well.

Fairfield were keen to beat their neighbours, from only a few kilometres up the road, having won the first encounter 1-0.

They got away to the best possible start when fleet-footed Matthew Borg latched onto a cross from the right and tapped it in after only 3 minutes.

Mount Pritchard seemed to have the measure of Fairfield after this and managed to square things with a goal from the penalty spot by Fabio Screpis after Ante Zizic had been brought down.

Trinity Allen made some great saves to keep Mounties at bay including a face to face with Derek Poimer, but in a rare counter-attack Fairfield got the winner in the 85th minute, again from Borg and this time with the ball going in off the post.

Dulwich Hill had hopes of beating Auburn at Mona Park, but that ain't easy in front of those regular local supporters.

Auburn hammered five past the hapless 'Hill, without any response, thus ensuring themselves a place in the play-offs at the expense of Hills United.

Saso Talevski continued his high scoring feats with a hat-trick, beginning with a goal in the 6th minute and then two more in the 38th and 78th minutes.

Player/Coach, Jae Wang ensured a 2-0 lead in the 23rd minute when he took the ball from the centre and worked his way down the left flank before unleashing a powerful, low drive which beat the keeper at the far post.

Talevski's first two before the break were as the result of opportunism in a congested goalmouth, while the third was more of an individual effort.

Finally Nihad Ahmed completed the scoring in the

89th with another piece of nifty footwork in a crowded area.

Dulwich Hill had their opportunities with Sam Belinha hitting the bar and Sepp Disch seeing a fine header well saved.

The day was sunny for the main game, but all agreed that the referee would hardly have agreed to play the game had it not been the last round of the season.

Auburn will now meet Bathurst in the semi-finals.



PENRITH PANTHERS 5

MT. DRUITT TOWN 2

Dulwich were spared the last place by the loss at Penrith 5-2 by Mount Druitt, whose goal difference let them down.

Mount Druitt had scored first and held Penrith 1-1 at the break.

John White's goal had been cancelled out by Ian Wotherspoon in his farewell

match for the Panthers, before taking up a coaching position.

The flood gates opened in the second half with David Fitzharris getting Penrith in front and then Wotherspoon making it three.

A second for Fitzharris at the fifth goal by Darren Moss saw Penrith bounce back from a lean trot against their derby rivals, whose second came from young prospect Clinton Green.

2ND DIVISION

PRELIMINARY

FINAL

The 2nd Division Preliminary Final was held at the Serbian Centre and had been subject to a 9.00am inspection with Alexandria and Sydney Districts engaged in the first grade game.

Before that game, AC United took Parramatta City apart in the Under 18 match, with Shane Cevenini claiming a hat-trick and Daniel George getting the fourth goal to set up a re-match with old and local rivals Prairiewood in the Grand Final.

The two sides have met three times, with AC so far without a win, but they are confident of breaking the pattern this time.

Waratah Cup

Round Six

TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 3

UTS Olympic v Rockdale City Suns
St George Stadium, 7.30pm

Sydney United v Canberra Cosmos
Syd Utd Sports Centre, 7.30pm

WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 4

Warringah Dolphins v Canterbury Marrickville
Melita Stadium, 6.15pm

Parramatta Eagles v Bathurst '75
Melita Stadium, 7.30pm

Hills United v Sutherland Sharks
Gabbie Stadium, 7.30pm

Sydney Cosmos v Wollongong City
Balls Paddock, Bulli, 7.30pm

THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 5

Highfields Wolves v Newcastle Breakers
Lisle Carr, Whitebridge, 7.30pm

SOCCER NSW INFORMATION SERVICE

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To start your own Fantasy Football team, pick your players from the list of goalkeepers, defenders, midfielders and strikers below.

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Please allow four to six weeks after you submit your entry form for delivery of your manager's pack ... so the earlier you enter, the earlier you can start tracking your team's performance as follows:

Each week (from 9 September this year until the end of the season in May 1997) Fantasy Football players will be allocated points based on their real performance in live action FA Carling Premiership matches.

Their points will refer to games played each week, running from Monday to Sunday. Only matches played from 9 September onwards count towards *The Weekly Telegraph* Fantasy Football.

Players' weekly scores and a league table showing the top managers will be published each week from 25 September in *The Weekly Telegraph*. From these results, write down your individual player's scores on your score card, then add them all up for your team's weekly points total.

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I.D.	Player	Club	Value	I.D.	Player	Club	Value	I.D.	Player	Club	Value	I.D.	Player	Club	Value	I.D.	Player	Club	Value	I.D.	Player	Club	Value	I.D.	Player	Club	Value	I.D.	Player	Club	Value								
GOALKEEPERS (Position GK)																																							
102	D Seaman	ARS	3.1	216	B Borrows	COV	2.1	271	G Ekins	WIM	2.2	330	L Radebe	LEE	2.3	377	D Lee	CHE	2.4	444	P Simpson	DER	2.4	501	Emerson	MID	3.4	556	R Rosenthal	TOT	2.2	629	M Bridges	SUN	2.3				
103	R Hault	DER	2.0	217	M Hall	COV	2.0	272	T Phelan	CHE	2.8	331	J Pemberton	LEE	2.3	378	S Campbell	TOT	2.9	445	P Trolove	DER	2.0	502	R Mustoe	MID	2.0	557	M Oakley	SOT	1.8	630	C Russell	SUN	3.6				
104	M Taylor	DER	1.9	218	S Minto	CHE	2.3	273	S Watson	NEW	3.0	332	P Beesley	LEE	2.2	379	J Kieldberg	CHE	2.1	446	M Taylor	COV	1.8	503	R Fox	TOT	3.3	558	G Potter	SOT	2.3	631	N Whelan	COV	4.2				
105	K Hitchcock	CHE	2.3	219	J O'Connor	EVE	2.0	274	W Barton	NEW	3.1	333	M Wright	LIV	3.4	380	D Wetherall	LEE	2.7	447	J Briball	EVE	2.3	504	B Robinson	MID	1.8	559	R Earle	WIM	2.9	632	I Rush	LEE	4.5				
106	D Bessant	SOT	2.0	220	M Jackson	EVE	2.4	275	J Jupp	WIM	2.1	334	C Tiler	AVL	1.9	381	F Leboeuf	CHE	2.7	448	P Ndlovu	COV	2.9	505	J Pollock	MID	2.1	563	N Ardley	WIM	1.9	633	F Raduciu	WHM	5.3				
107	S Ogrizovic	COV	2.0	221	C Powell	DER	2.2	276	D Petrescu	CHE	2.9	335	A Watts	LEE	2.1	382	C Dailly	MUN	3.0	449	C Dailly	DER	2.4	506	S Waddle	MID	2.2	564	C Waddle	SWY	2.2	634	D Kelly	SUN	3.7				
108	J Filan	COV	1.8	222	L Carsley	DER	2.0	277	B Thatcher	WIM	2.3	336	S Walsh	LEE	2.0	383	P Williams	COV	2.3	451	J Parkinson	EVE	2.1	507	C Blackburn	MID	1.9	565	R Jensen	ARS	1.8	635	L Howey	SUN	2.7				
109	N Southall	EVE	2.7	223	J Kavanagh	DER	1.9	278	A Kimble	WIM	2.3	337	C Hill	LEE	1.9	385	N Jerkan	NOT	2.7	452	N Lennon	LEE	2.2	508	C Hignett	MID	2.4	566	G Flitcroft	BLA	2.3	636	M Hughes	CHE	3.7				
110	K Poole	LEE	1.9	224	J Laurson	LEE	2.1	279	J Nolan	SWY	2.3	338	G Pallister	MUN	3.8	387	R Shaw	COV	2.1	453	S Parker	LEE	2.3	509	R Keane	MUN	2.6	567	S Lazaridis	WHM	1.9	637	G Vialli	CHE	5.7				
111	Z Kalac	LEE	1.9	225	G Kelly	LEE	2.6	280	G Grotti	BLA	2.4	339	J Willis	LEE	1.8	388	L Dash	COV	2.2	454	G Parker	LEE	2.5	510	J Juninho	MID	3.4	568	M Hughes	WHM	2.3	638	OG Solskjaer	WHM	2.8				
112	P Gerrard	EVE	2.7	226	T Dorog	LEE	2.6	281	H Berg	BLA	2.8	340	S Howey	NEW	3.0	MIDFIELDERS (Position MFD)																							
113	N Martin	LEE	2.5	227	K McAttee	LIV	3.6	282	K Cunningham	WIM	2.1	341	K Scott	TOT	1.8	402	K Richardson	COV	2.1	455	E Heskey	LEE	2.6	511	S Stamp	MID	2.0	569	N Harford	WIM	2.1	641	A Cole	MUN	5.5				
114	T Cotton	SUN	2.1	228	S Harkness	LIV	2.4	283	K Kerlake	TOT	1.8	342	K Scott	TOT	1.8	403	M Draper	AVL	2.7	456	J Dozell	TOT	2.2	512	P Stone	NOT	3.2	570	S Castledine	WIM	1.9	642	P McGregor	SOT	2.3				
115	M Beesley	LEE	2.2	229	R Jones	LIV	3.4	284	S Vickers	MID	2.4	343	S Vickers	MID	2.4	404	M Platt	ARS	3.8	457	I Dumitrescu	WHM	2.9	513	C Allen	NOT	2.0	571	M Gayle	WIM	2.3	643	P Kitson	NEW	2.3				
116	P Schmeichel	MUN	3.4	230	D Burrows	COV	2.2	285	N Neville	MUN	3.5	344	N Pearson	MID	2.4	405	P Morgan	ARS	2.9	458	J Lawrence	LEE	2.1	514	S Howe	NOT	2.1	572	P Fear	WIM	1.8	644	D York	AVL	6.1				
117	A Miller	MID	2.2	231	D Biondini	COV	2.2	286	S Whelan	MID	2.0	345	P Whelan	MID	2.0	406	T Pratt	ARS	3.8	459	M Izet	LEE	2.4	515	S Gemmill	NOT	3.2	573	E Jerr	COV	2.5	645	S Miosic	AVL	5.1				
118	M Stensgaard	LIV	1.8	232	S Bjornbeyle	LIV	2.1	CENTRE BACKS (Position CBK)																460	S Strachan	COV	1.9	516	I Woan	NOT	3.3	574	C Jerr	COV	2.5	646	C Sutton	BLA	4.1
119	S Hislop	NEW	2.8	233	K Rowland	WHM	2.4	301	U Ehiogu	AVL	3.1	346	C Calderwood	TOT	2.8	407	P Morgan	ARS	2.9	461	G Speed	EVE	2.9	517	P Bracew	SUN	2.1	575	A Clarke	WIM	2.2	647	S Miosic	AVL	5.1				
120	P Smicek	NEW	2.4	234	P Berger	LIV	4.0	302	P McGrath	AVL	3.0	347	C Diddle	MID	1.9	408	D Rocaeste	CHE	1.9	462	G Speed	EVE	2.9	518	S Agnew	SUN	2.3	576	F Carr	AVL	1.8	648	A Yekob	LEE	5.5				
121	M Crossley	NOT	2.5	235	D Hughton	MUN	3.8	303	G Southgate	AVL	3.2	348	S Marshall	ARS	2.9	409	D Hillier	ARS	1.9	463	G Speed	EVE	2.9	519	S Agnew	SUN	2.3	577	F Carr	AVL	1.8	649	T Sheeringham	TOT	5.9				
122	T Flowers	BLA	2.6	236	S Grayson	LEE	2.0	304	R Scimeca	AVL	2.3	349	N Marker	BLA	2.1	410	D Hillier	ARS	1.9	464	G Speed	EVE	2.9	520	S Agnew	SUN	2.3	578	F Carr	AVL	1.8	650	C Armstrong	TOT	5.5				
123	I Walker	TOT	2.6	237	M Whitlow	LEE	2.2	305	S Bould	ARS	3.2	350	C Cooper	NOT	2.8	411	A Limpar	EVE	2.4	465	G Speed	EVE	2.9	521	S Agnew	SUN	2.3	579	M O'Neill	COV	2.3	651	S Callumore	LIV	6.8				
124	H Segers	WIM	1.9	238	J Beresford	NEW	3.0	306	S Bould	WHM	2.5	351	R Ord	SUN	2.2	412	T Grant	EVE	2.1	466	L Bowyer	LEE	3.4	522	S Aiston	SUN	1.9	580	M Telfer	COV	2.2	652	J Lee	NOT	3.9				
125	D James	LIV	3.1	239	N Lewis	LEE	1.8	307	T Adams	WHM	2.6	352	R Ord	SUN	2.2	413	T Grant	EVE	2.1	467	S Redknapp	LIV	2.9	523	S Aiston	SUN	1.9	581	M Telfer	COV	2.2	653	B Roy	NOT	3.9				
126	N Sullivan	WIM	2.0	240	M Cox	MID	2.5	308	A Lingham	ARS	2.3	353	D Whyte	MID	2.4	414	B McKinlay	BLA	2.4	468	S Redknapp	LIV	2.9	524	S Stewart	SUN	2.6	582	M Telfer	COV	2.2	654	A Slenzi	NOT	2.2				
127	L Mikosko	WHM	2.2	241	C Fleming	MID	2.2	309	C Coleman	BLA	2.8	354	D Peacock	NEW	2.9	415	R Parlor	ARS	2.1	469	A Gray	LEE	2.1	525	S Stewart	SUN	2.6	583	G Helder	ARS	2.4	655	L Ferdinand	NEW	6.7				
128	P Heald	WIM	1.9	242	C Morris	MID	2.4	310	S Chettle	NOT	2.6	355	A Haaland	NOT	2.3	416	R Parlor	ARS	2.1	470	A Gray	LEE	2.1	526	S Stewart	SUN	2.6	584	G Helder	ARS	2.4	656	K Deane	LEE	3.1				
129	K Pressman	SWY	2.1	243	R Elliott	NEW	2.4	311	C Hendry	BLA	2.9	356	S Chettle	NOT	2.6	417	K Gallacher	BLA	2.5	471	W Wilcox	BLA	3.3	527	S Aiston	SUN	1.9	585	R Aae	SUN	2.5	657	A Booth	SWY	3.9				
130	D Kharine	CHE	2.3	244	D Lytle	NOT	2.6	312	J Stiles	DER	2.2	357	A Thorne	WIM	2.0	418	D Williamson	WHM	2.4	472	M Thomas	LIV	2.1	528	S Aiston	SUN	1.9	586	G Helder	ARS	2.4	658	D Hirst	SWY	4.3				
131	M Boudrich	AVL	3.0	245	S Pearce	NOT	2.9	313	D Yates	DER	2.2	358	S Nouri	SWY	2.1	419	I Bishop	WHM	2.0	473	N Ford	LEE	2.2	529	S Aiston	SUN	1.9	587	P Fear	WIM	1.8	659	T Broolin	LEE	3.4				
132	G Walsh	MID	2.3	246	M Pearce	NOT	2.1	314	S Potts	WHM	2.3	359	S Clarke	CHE	2.3	420	T Shawwood	BLA	2.4	474	M Thomas	LIV	2.1	530	S Aiston	SUN	1.9	588	F Asprilla	NEW	5.7								
133	V Barthram	ARS	1.6	247	C Phillips	NOT	2.1	315	D Spinks	WHM	2.3	360	D Walker	SWY	2.2	421	K Gallacher	BLA	2.5	475	N Ford	LEE	2.2	531	S Aiston	SUN	1.9	589	C Palmer	LEE	2.0	660	N Lamprey	COV	2.0				
				248	D Lytle	NOT	2.6	316	J Spinks	WHM	2.3	361	P Albert	NEW	2.7	422	G Oatis	BLA	2.0	476	R Wallace	LEE	2.2	532	S Aiston	SUN	1.9	590	C Palmer	LEE	2.0	661	P Dickow	ARS	2.1				
				249	S Pearce	NOT	2.9	317	A Spinks	WHM	2.3	362	D Walker	SWY	2.2	423	G Oatis	BLA	2.0	477	L Bohinen	BLA	2.6	533	S Aiston	SUN	1.9	591	M Williams	SWY	1.8	662	G Fenton	BLA	3.4				
				250	D Phillips	NOT	2.1	318	M Spinks	WHM	2.3	363	R Hall	WHM	2.4	424	S Holmes	BLA	1.9	478	N Gudmundsson	BLA	2.2	534	S Aiston	SUN	1.9	592	G Whittingham	SWY	3.1	663	A Shearer	NEW	8.0				
				251	C Wilson	TOT	2.8	319	S Potts	WHM	2.3	364	J Newsome	SWY	2.3	425	P Morrow	ARS	1.9	479	C Cruyff	MUN	3.8	535	S Aiston	SUN	1.9	593	N Whittingham	SWY	3.1	664	J Hendrie	MID	2.5				
				252	D Kubiczki	SUN	2.2	320	J Spinks	WHM	2.3	365	G Sinclair	CHE	2.4	426	P Hurst	BLA	2.0	480	N Gudmundsson	BLA	2.2	536	S Aiston	SUN	1.9	594	H Hyde	SWY	1.9	665	J Aftorft	MID	3.7				
				253	M Scott	SUN	2.4	321	A Spinks	WHM	2.3	366	M Daberry	CHE	2.5	427	M Holmes	BLA	1.9	481	K Poborsky	MUN	4.1	537	S Aiston	SUN	1.9	595	C Bart-Williams	NOT	2.1	666	J Aftorft	MID	3.7				
				254	G Hall	SUN	2.1	322	M Keown	ARS	3.3	367	G Mubutu	TOT	2.7	428	A Kanchelskis	EVE	4.9	482	N Butt	MUN	2.5	538	S Aiston	SUN	1.9	596	M Le Tissier	SOT	4.7	667	J Harrison	ARS	3.3				
				255	G Hall	SUN	2.1	323	D Unsworth	EVE	3.1	368	D May	MUN	3.1	429	C Burley	CHE	2.0	483	R Gigg	MUN	4.4	539	S Aiston	SUN	1.9	597	S Hughes	SOT	1.9	668	A Ward	DER	3.5				
				256	M Scott	SUN	2.4	324	D Watson	EVE	3.0	369	N Ruddock	LIV	3.5	430	J Vane	WIM	2.3	484	N Butt	MUN	2.5	540	S Aiston	SUN	1.9	598	N Slater	WHM	2.1	669	M Stein	CHE	2.2				
				257	T Austin	TOT	2.7	325	G Goss	EVE	3.1	370	N Ruddock	LIV	3.5	431	C Vane	WIM	2.3	485	R Gigg	MUN	4.4	541	S Aiston	SUN	1.9	599	H Heaney	SOT	2.1	670	P Scholes	MUN	3.8				
				258	T Thomas	TOT	2.6	326	G Goss	EVE	3.1	371	A Myers	CHE	2.3	432	J Newton	CHE	2.1	486	A Kanchelskis	EVE	4.9	542	S Aiston	SUN	1.9	600	S Magilton	TOT	2.2	671	R Euell	WIM	2.2				
				259	A Whitcliffe	EVE	3.1	327	D Wassell	DER	2.0	372	C Perry	WIM	2.1	433	E Newton	CHE	2.1	487	S Peacock	CHE	2.7	543	S Aiston	SUN	1.9	601	N Heaney	SOT	2.1	672	D Holdsworth	WHM	3.8				
				260	M Hottinger	EVE	2.8	328	D Wassell	DER	2.0	373	S Scates	LIV	3.3	434	T Townsend	AVL	2.4	488	G Peacock	CHE	2.7	544	S Aiston	SUN	1.9	602	S Magilton	TOT	2.2	673	D Dublin	COV	4.7				
				261	T Edinburg	TOT	2.5	329	A Nielsen	SOT	2.1	374	S Scates	LIV	3.3	435	A Townsend	AVL	2.4	489	L Peacock	CHE	2.7	545	S Aiston	SUN	1.9	603	S Magilton	TOT	2.2	674	G Stuart	EVE	3.9				
											375	D Wattson	LIV	2.1	436	R Wise	CHE	3.0	490	E Peacock	CHE	2.7	546	S Aiston	SUN	1.9	604	S Magilton											

WORLD RESULTS & TABLES

ENGLAND

Division 1

— August 27 —

Crystal Palace	0	West Bromwich	0
Ipswich	1	Grimsby	1
Oxford	0	Norwich	1
Portsmouth	1	Southend	0
Tranmere	2	Port Vale	0
Barnsley	3	Reading	0
Stoke	1	Bradford	0
Swindon	1	Oldham	0
Wolverhampton	1	QPR	1

Postponed: Charlton v Birmingham, Sheffield Utd v Huddersfield.

Division 2

Brentford	2	Gillingham	0
Bristol City	5	Luton	0
Burnley	1	Shrewsbury	3
Chesterfield	1	Walsall	0
Preston	2	Crewe	1
Rotherham	1	Blackpool	2
Stockport	0	Bournemouth	1
Watford	0	Plymouth	2
Wycombe	0	Bury	1
York	3	Millwall	2

Postponed: Peterborough v Notts County, Wrexham v Bristol Rovers.

Division 3

Barnet	3	Brighton	0
Cardiff	0	Wigan	2
Carlisle	1	Leyton Orient	0
Chester	2	Swansea	0
Darlington	1	Colchester	1
Exeter	1	Doncaster	1
Hartlepool	2	Mansfield	2
Hereford	0	Hull	1
Lincoln	1	Cambridge	1
Northampton	1	Torquay	1
Rochdale	1	Fulham	2
Scunthorpe	0	Scarborough	2

Division 1

— August 31 —

Bradford	1	Tranmere	0
Grimsby	0	Portsmouth	1
Huddersfield	1	Crystal Palace	1
Norwich	1	Wolverhampton	0
Oldham	3	Ipswich	3
Port Vale	2	Oxford	0
Reading	2	Stoke	2
Southend	1	Swindon	3

Table

Stoke	4	3	1	0	7	4	10
Barnsley	3	3	0	0	8	2	9
Norwich	4	3	0	1	5	3	9
Tranmere	4	2	1	1	6	4	7
Bolton	3	2	1	0	5	2	7
QPR	3	2	1	0	5	3	7
Wolverhampton	4	2	1	1	5	3	7
Swindon	4	2	1	1	5	4	7
Bradford	4	2	0	2	4	3	6
Portsmouth	4	2	0	2	4	5	6
Ipswich	4	1	2	1	9	7	5
Crystal Palace	4	1	2	1	4	3	5
Port Vale	4	1	2	1	4	4	5
Birmingham	2	1	1	0	5	4	4
Reading	4	1	1	2	5	10	4
Huddersfield	3	1	1	1	4	4	4
Oxford	4	1	0	3	6	5	3
Manchester City	3	1	0	2	2	3	3

Division 2

Blackpool	0	Wycombe	0
Bournemouth	1	Peterborough	2
Bristol Rovers	1	Stockport	1
Bury	4	Bristol City	0
Crewe	0	Watford	2
Gillingham	0	Chesterfield	1
Luton	1	Rotherham	0
Millwall	2	Burnley	1
Notts County	0	York	1
Plymouth	2	Preston	1
Shrewsbury	0	Brentford	3

Table

Plymouth	4	3	1	0	10	6	10
Brentford	4	3	1	0	9	3	10
Bury	4	3	1	0	8	2	10
Chesterfield	4	3	0	1	4	2	9
Millwall	4	2	1	1	7	5	7
Shrewsbury	4	2	1	1	6	6	7
Blackpool	4	2	1	1	3	2	7
York	4	2	0	2	6	6	6
Burnley	4	2	0	2	6	7	6
Bournemouth	4	2	0	2	5	5	6
Watford	4	2	0	2	4	5	6
Bristol Rovers	3	1	2	0	2	1	5
Peterborough	3	1	1	1	4	4	4

Preston	4	1	1	2	4	5	4
Crewe	4	1	1	2	4	6	4
Gillingham	4	1	1	2	4	6	4
Notts County	3	1	1	1	2	2	4
Bristol City	4	1	0	3	7	8	3
Luton	4	1	0	3	4	10	3
Wycombe	4	0	3	1	2	3	3
Wrexham	2	0	2	0	5	5	2
Stockport	4	0	2	2	1	3	2
Rotherham	4	0	1	3	3	6	1
Walsall	3	0	1	2	2	4	1

Division 3

Brighton	1	Scunthorpe	1
Cambridge United	0	Cardiff	2
Colchester	1	Hereford	1
Doncaster	3	Darlington	2
Fulham	1	Carlisle	0
Hull	0	Barnet	0
Leyton Orient	2	Hartlepool	0
Mansfield	0	Rochdale	0
Scarborough	1	Northampton	1
Swansea	1	Lincoln	2
Torquay	2	Exeter	0
Wigan	4	Chester	2

Table

Wigan	4	3	1	0	9	4	10
Fulham	4	3	0	1	5	3	9
Hull	4	2	2	0	4	2	8
Hartlepool	4	2	1	1	6	5	7
Torquay	4	2	1	1	5	3	7
Cardiff	4	2	1	1	3	2	7
Scunthorpe	4	2	1	1	3	3	7
Carlisle	4	2	1	1	2	1	7
Scarborough	4	1	3	0	5	3	6
Northampton	4	1	2	1	6	4	5
Lincoln	4	1	2	1	5	5	5
Barnet	4	1	2	1	4	2	5
Exeter	4	1	2	1	4	5	5
Cambridge Utd	4	1	2	1	3	4	5
Darlington	4	1	1	2	9	8	4
Chester	4	1	1	2	6	7	4
Doncaster	4	1	1	2	4	5	4
Leyton Orient	4	1	1	2	3	3	4
Brighton	4	1	1	2	3	6	4
Hereford	4	1	1	2	2	3	4
Swansea	4	1	0	3	4	9	3
Colchester	4	0	3	1	2	4	3
Rochdale	4	0	2	2	2	4	2
Mansfield	4	0	2	2	2	6	2

Scotland

Division 1

Greenock Morton	1	Falkirk	0
Partick	1	St Mirren	1
Stirling	1	Dundee	1

Table

Morton	3	2	0	1	5	2	6
Dundee	3	1	2	0	3	2	5
St Johnstone	2	1	1	0	3	0	4
St Mirren	3	1	1	1	5	4	4
Airdrieonians	2	1	1	0	1	0	4
Falkirk	3	1	1	1	1	1	4
Clydebank	2	1	0	1	1	3	3
Partick	3	0	2	1	1	2	2
Stirling	3	0	1	2	1	3	1
East Fife	2	0	1	1	0	4	1

Division 2

Ayr	6	Berwick	0
Clyde	0	Queen of South	2
Dumbarton	1	Brechin	1
Livingston	1	Hamilton	0
Stenhousemuir	0	Stranraer	1

Table

Livingston	3	3	0	0	6	2	9
Queen of South	3	2	0	1	5	4	6
Ayr	3	1	2	0	8	2	5
Stenhousemuir	3	1	1	1	6	1	4
Hamilton	3	1	1	1	3	2	4
Stranraer	3	1	1	1	3	3	4
Brechin	3	0	3	0	2	2	3
Clyde	3	1	0	2	2	5	3
Dumbarton	3	0	2	1	3	4	2
Berwick	3	0	0	3	1	14	0

Division 3

Albion	2	Cowdenbeath	0
Arbroath	0	East Stirling	0
Inverness Thistle	1	Alloa	0
Montrose	2	Ross County	1
Queen's Park	1	Forfar	4

Table

Albion	3	3	0	0	5	0	9
Forfar	3	2	0	1	7	4	6
Cowdenbeath	3	2	0	1	4	3	6
Arbroath	3	1	2	0	4	2	5

Alloa	3	1	1	1	3	3	4
Queen's Park	3	1	1	1	6	8	4
Montrose	3	1	0	2	3	4	3
Inverness Thistle	3	1	0	2	3	6	3
East Stirling	3	0	2	1	3	4	2
Ross County	3	0	0	3	3	7	0

Japan J-League

— August 31 —

Avispa Fukuoka	4	Kashiwa Reysol	5
Gamba Osaka	0	Kashim Antlers	1
Jubilo Iwata	2	Kyoto Purple Sanga	1
Nagoya Grampus Eight	2	Shimizu S-Pulse	1

Yokohama Marinos	2	Bellmare Hiratsuka	1
Verdy Kawasaki	3	Yokohama Flugels	2
Urawa Red Diamond	5	Sanfrecce Hiroshima	1
JEF United Ichihara	1	Cerezo Osaka	0

Table

	P	W	L	F	A	P
Kashima Antlers	17	12	5	40	18	38
Urawa Red Diamonds	17	12	5	33	20	37
Jubilo Iwata	17	12	5	33	23	37
Kashiwa Reysol	17	12	5	41	25	36
Nagoya Grampus Eight	17	12	5	38	24	36
Yokohama Flugels	17	12	5	36	27	36
Verdy Kawasaki	17	10	7	40	31	30
Yokohama Marinos	17	9	8	25	19	27
JEF United Ichihara	17	9	8	26	23	27
Gamba Osaka	17	8	9	23	33	24
Bellmare Hiratsuka	17	7	10	26	37	21
Sanfrecce Hiroshima	17	6	11	16	27	18
Shimizu S-Pulse	17	5	12	29	35	16
Avispa Fukuoka	17	5	12	26	40	15
Cerezo Osaka	17	5	12	18	32	15
Kyoto Purple Sanga	17	0	17	8	44	0

European Cup Winners Cup

Qualifying Round, Second Leg

AEK Lamaca (Cyprus) 5	Kotaik Abovyan (Armenia) 0 (2-0)
AEK Lamaca win 5-1 on aggregate.	
Kareda Siauliani (Lithuania) 0	Sion (Switzerland) 0
Sion with 4-2 on aggregate.	
Nyva Vinnytsya (Ukraine) 1	Tallinna Sadam (Estonia) 0 (0-0)
Aggregate score 2-2. Nyva qualified on away goals rule.	
Brann (Norway) 2	Shelbourne (Ireland) 1 (1-1)
Brann with 5-2 on aggregate.	
Levski Sofia (Bulgaria) 1	Olimpija (Slovenia) 0 (0-0)
Aggregate 1-1. Olimpija won 4-3 on penalties.	
Vaduz (Liechtenstein) 1	RAF Riga (Latvia) 1 (0-0)
Aggregate 2-2. Vaduz won 4-2 on penalties.	
US Luxembourg (Luxembourg) 0	Varteks Varazdin (Croatia) 3 (0-0)
Varteks Varazdin won 5-1 on aggregate.	
Havnar Boltfelag (Faroe Islands) 0	Dynamo Batumi (Georgia) 3 (0-2)
Dynamo Batumi won 9-0 on aggregate.	
Sparta Prague (Czech Republic) 8	Glentoran (Northern Ireland) 0 (4-0)
Sparta win 10-1 on aggregate.	
Hearts (Scotland) 1	Red Star Belgrade (Yugoslavia) 1 (1-0)
Aggregate 1-1. Red Star win on away goals rule.	
Hapoel Ironi (Israel) 3	Constructorul Chisinau (Moldova) 2 (2-1)
Aggregate 3-3. Constructorul win on away goals rule.	
MyPa-47 (Finland) 1	Karabach Agdam (Azerbaijan) 1 (0-0)
MyPa-47 win 2-1 on aggregate.	
Slogja Jugomagnat (Macedonia) 0	Kispest Honved (Hungary) 1 (0-0)
Kispest Honved win 2-0 on aggregate.	
Reykjavik (Iceland) 1	MPFC Mozyr (Belarus) 0
Reykjavik won 3-2 on aggregate.	

NORWAY ELITE DIVISION

— August 25 —

Tromso	2	Kongsvinger	1
Valerenga	3	Skeid	0
Stabaek	4	Stromsgodset	0
Molde	1	Bodo/Glimt	2
Viking	1	Moss	0
Brann	7	Start	1
Rosenborg	7	Lillestrom	2

TABLE

Rosenborg	20	14	4	2	68	21	46
Lillestrom	19	9	5	5	38	29	32
Skeid	19	10	2	7	29	30	32
Stabaek	20	7	8	5	41	34	29



Juninho: Middlesbrough, England.



Victorian Ladders



STATE LEAGUE DIVISION 1

FIRSTS

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Sp. White Eagles	23	16	3	4	50	23	51
Richmond	23	12	9	2	44	28	45
Preston Lions	23	12	8	3	35	16	44
West Suburbs	24	11	6	7	30	23	39
Kings City	23	9	11	3	32	25	38
Lalor Utd	24	10	6	8	56	41	36
Moorabbin City	23	9	7	7	33	27	34
Westgate	24	9	6	9	44	45	33
C'Don City Dons	24	8	7	9	42	32	31
Werribee City	24	8	5	11	33	28	29
Don'ster Rovers	24	6	10	8	30	34	28
Northc City	22	4	6	12	20	37	18
Broadmeadows	23	5	7	16	22	58	17
Glen Eira City	24	1	2	21	15	69	5

RESERVES

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Preston	19	15	1	3	50	20	46
Richmond	20	14	3	3	45	23	45
Moorabbin City	22	12	7	3	54	23	43
Werribee City	23	13	4	6	45	37	43
Don'ster Rovers	24	12	3	9	46	33	39
Croydon City	22	12	2	8	48	33	38
Kings City	24	11	3	10	56	37	36
Lalor United	23	11	1	11	53	39	34
Sp. White Eagles	21	8	1	12	47	47	25
Glen Eira City	24	7	4	13	34	60	25
Northc City	20	6	2	12	18	58	20
Westgate	22	6	1	15	25	55	19
West Suburbs	20	5	2	13	33	52	17
Broadmeadows	20	2	2	16	20	57	8

STATE LEAGUE DIVISION 2

FIRSTS

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Westvale	24	21	1	2	90	23	61
Sth Dandenong	24	15	4	5	58	29	49
Altona East	24	14	5	5	48	31	47
Altona City	23	10	4	9	37	23	34
Waverley City	24	9	7	8	55	53	34
Ess Brun Royals	24	9	7	8	24	25	34
Frankston Pines	24	7	9	8	31	35	30
East Richmond	23	7	6	10	37	37	27
Knox City	24	6	9	9	33	45	27
Regent Bulla	24	5	11	8	27	39	26
Bell Park	23	6	6	11	28	35	24
Oakland	23	4	9	10	26	54	21
Nunawading City	24	3	8	13	24	66	17
Mooroolbark	22	4	4	14	27	50	16

RESERVES

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Frankston Pines	22	16	3	3	56	20	51
Altona City	23	15	2	6	54	30	47
Waverley City	23	15	1	7	69	36	46
Westvale	24	14	5	5	54	40	44
Ess Brun Royals	24	12	4	8	55	26	40
East Richmond	23	8	7	7	37	33	32
Knox City	24	8	7	9	51	43	31
Altona East	23	8	6	9	42	45	30
Oakland	23	9	2	12	60	48	29
Mooroolbark	21	7	7	7	35	41	28
Regent Bulla	23	9	0	14	45	72	27
Nunawading City	23	5	3	15	46	59	18
Sth Dandenong	23	5	3	15	35	63	18
Bell Park	23	2	5	16	24	107	11

STATE LEAGUE DIVISION 3

FIRSTS

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Frankston	23	7	2	4	69	25	53
Ringwood City	22	14	5	3	59	18	47
Sth Springvale	23	13	5	5	51	26	44
Dia Valley Utd	23	13	3	7	35	30	42
Cranbourne	24	12	4	8	39	29	40
Fitzroy City	22	10	4	8	39	31	34
Pascoe Vale	23	9	6	8	32	32	33
Sth Caulfield	24	10	4	10	40	40	31

Sth Werribee	23	6	7	10	39	43	25
Melb City	24	6	7	11	35	42	25
Keilor Eagles	24	5	9	10	20	31	24
Chelsea	24	6	6	12	38	77	24
Banyule	24	4	8	12	29	53	20
Clifton Hill	23	1	4	18	15	63	7

RESERVES

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Cranbourne	24	18	4	2	97	21	58
Ringwood City	22	19	1	2	82	17	58
Keilor Eagles	23	16	5	2	62	21	53
Dia Valley Utd	23	12	4	7	58	38	40
Fitzroy City	23	11	5	7	63	51	38
Sth Springvale	21	10	5	6	50	26	35
Frankston	22	10	4	8	82	45	34
Melb City	23	9	6	8	44	41	33
Pascoe Vale	23	8	3	12	42	53	27
Sth Werribee	22	6	3	13	42	82	21
Sth Caulfield	23	5	6	12	29	45	18
Banyule	23	5	3	15	44	75	18
Chelsea	24	4	2	18	32	88	14
Clifton Hill	22	0	1	21	11	135	1

STATE LEAGUE DIVISION 4

FIRSTS

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Nth Coburg Utd	24	16	2	6	67	35	50
Yarraville	23	15	5	3	51	25	50
Geelong	24	14	7	3	51	30	49
Sun Heights	24	15	2	7	53	24	47
Stonnington	24	13	5	6	50	31	44
Langwarrin	24	9	6	9	48	37	33
Lalor	23	9	6	8	42	35	33
Seaford Utd	24	8	5	11	36	44	29
Sunbury Utd	24	7	7	10	27	36	28
Monbulk	23	6	8	9	23	30	26
Moreland City	24	7	4	13	33	45	25
Corio	24	6	5	13	25	50	23
Williamstown	24	4	6	14	26	52	18
Sandr City	23	2	2	19	18	76	8

RESERVES

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Langwarrin	24	19	3	2	82	23	60
Sun Heights	23	15	5	3	71	16	50
Sunbury Utd	24	15	4	5	41	24	49
Lalor	23	13	6	4	55	31	45
Seaford Utd	24	10	8	6	57	37	38
Stonnington	24	11	4	9	48	37	37
Yarraville	21	9	6	6	49	33	33
Nth Coburg Utd	22	10	2	10	58	63	32
Moreland City	23	8	2	13	40	45	26
Monbulk	22	5	6	11	22	43	21
Corio	24	4	7	13	27	54	19
Geelong	23	4	6	13	26	70	18
San'ham City	23	4	1	18	26	78	13
Williamstown	24	2	6	16	29	77	12

PROV LEAGUE DIVISION ONE

FIRSTS

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Geel Rangers	22	16	3	3	59	21	51
Keysborough	21	16	1	4	48	15	49
Melton	22	11	7	4	37	20	40
Sth Wantirna	20	11	2	7	43	27	35
Knox Park	21	10	3	8	40	32	33
Sp'vale Condors	20	9	8	3	36	27	32
Nth Sunshine	20	9	3	8	37	32	30
Old Scotch-Haw	21	7	4	10	31	25	25
Mitcham Utd	19	8	1	10	31	32	25
Doveton	21	6	6	9	24	32	24
Ballarat	21	6	3	12	23	40	21
Mornington	21	6	3	12	19	45	21
Glenroy	22	4	5	13	29	45	17
Heidelberg City	21	2	1	18	12	74	7

RESERVES

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Knox Park	20	11	5	4	50	22	38
Melton	22	11	4	7	42	26	37

Mitcham Utd	17	11	3	3	51	28	36
Mornington	21	10	4	7	33	39	34
Ballarat	19	10	2	7	37	34	32
Glenroy	20	9	4	7	54	40	31
Nth Sunshine	19	9	3	7	32	34	30
Geel Rangers	22	7	5	10	41	50	26
Sp'vale Condors	19	8	3	8	45	38	24
Sth Wantirna	19	6	6	7	30	32	24
Old Scotch-Haw	20	4	7	9	42	48	19
Keysborough	20	5	4	11	36	49	19
Heidelberg City	19	3	7	9	23	51	16
Doveton	19	4	3	12	26	51	15

PROV LEAGUE DIVISION 2

FIRSTS

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Endeavour Utd	20	13	5	2	84	19	44
Croxton	19	13	3	3	54	23	42
Lyndale United	20	12	5	3	59	26	41
Sth Yarra	21	12	2	7	49	42	38
Brandon Park	20	11	1	8	39	39	34
Brunswick City	21	10	3	8	41	30	33
Hoppers Crossing	22	9	5	8	36	52	32
Braeside Utd	21	8	5	8	36	36	29
Meadow Park	21	8	5	8	32	34	29
Berwick City	20	6	4	10	31	36	22
Hampt Pk Utd	19	4	6	9	26	44	18
Dandenong	20	5	3	12	23	43	18
Nth Glenroy	22	4	6	12	26	62	18
E Nun Eagles	22	2	1	19	16	66	7

RESERVES

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Lyndale United	19	15	4	0	72	13	49
Endeavour Utd	20	15	2	3	71	29	47
Dandenong	20	13	3	4	57	22	42
Brunswick City	21	11	6	4	40	27	39
Nth Glenroy	22	9	3	10	33	31	30
Meadow Park	20	7	6	7	33	32	27
Hampt Pk Utd	19	7	5	7	30	31	26
Berwick City	19	7	4	8	45	41	25
Sth Yarra	19	6	5	8	42	27	23
Hoppers Crossing	21	6	4	11	31	56	22
Croxton	17	5	3	9	28	43	18
Braeside Utd	20	5	3	12	19	65	18
E Nun Eagles	22	4	1	17	20	53	13
Brandon Park	19	3	3	13	23	54	12

PROV LEAGUE DIVISION 3

METRO LEAGUE



TACKLE DIABETES



STATE LEAGUE DIVISION ONE

SATURDAY, 7TH SEPTEMBER — ROUND 25

Westgate	v	Moorabbin City
Western Suburbs	v	Kingston City
Northcote City	v	Lalor Utd
Doncaster Rovers	v	Croydon City
S'vale Wht Eagles	v	Werribee City
Preston Lions	v	Br'meadows City
Richmond	v	Glen Eira City

STATE LEAGUE DIVISION TWO

SATURDAY, 7TH SEPTEMBER — ROUND 25

Knox City	v	Waverley City
Oakleigh	v	East Richmond
Sth Dandenong	v	Ess. Bruns Royals
Mooroolbark	v	Nunawading City
Westvale	v	Bell Park
Regent-Bulla	v	Altona East

STATE LEAGUE DIVISION THREE

SATURDAY, 7TH SEPTEMBER — ROUND 25

Clifton Hill	v	Fitzroy City
Frankston	v	Diamond Valley Utd
Cranbourne	v	Sth Caulfield
Sth Werribee	v	Melbourne City
Ringwood City	v	Keilor Eagles
Sth Springvale	v	Chelsea
Danyule City	v	Pascoe Vale

STATE LEAGUE DIVISION FOUR

SATURDAY, 7TH SEPTEMBER — ROUND 25

Monbulk	v	Sunshine Heights
Williamstown	v	Bunbury Utd
Geelong	v	Sandringham City
Nth Coburg Utd	v	Yarraville
Seaford Utd	v	Lalor
Moreland City	v	Corio
Stonnington City	v	Langwarrin

PROVISIONAL LEAGUE DIVISION ONE

SATURDAY, 7TH SEPTEMBER — ROUND 23

Geelong Rangers	v	Old Scotch Hawt
Mitcham Utd	v	Glenroy
Melton	v	Doveton
S'vale Condors	v	Ballarat
Mornington	v	Knox Park
Sth Wantima	v	Keysborough
Heidelberg City	v	Nth Sunshine

(*to be played at Terrara Park)

PROVISIONAL LEAGUE DIVISION TWO

SATURDAY, 7TH SEPTEMBER — ROUND 23

Croxton	v	Nth Glenroy
Hampton Park Utd	v	Hoppers Crossing
Endeavour Utd	v	Brandon Park
Meadow Park	v	Dandenong
Berwick City	v	Branside Utd
Lyndale Utd	v	East Nun Eagles
South Yarra	v	Brunswick City

PROVISIONAL LEAGUE DIVISION THREE

NORTH/WEST

SATURDAY, 7TH SEPTEMBER — ROUND 21

Nth Reservoir	v	Whitesea Utd
West Preston	v	Dararin Utd
Sydenham Park	v	Keon Park
Sunshine Park	v	Latrobe Uni
Northern Utd	v	Mill Park
Upfield	v	Diamond Valley

PROVISIONAL LEAGUE DIVISION THREE

SOUTH/EAST/CENTRAL

SUNDAY, 8TH SEPTEMBER — ROUND 21

Nth Caulfield	v	Ivanhoe Utd
Wav. Wanderers	v	Cam. Gr. Old Boys
Flem. Falcons	v	East Kew
Noble Park	v	Yarra Utd
Oakleigh Utd	v	Endeavour Hills
Thornbury	v	Collingwood City

PROVISIONAL LEAGUE DIVISION THREE

METROPOLITAN

SATURDAY, 7TH SEPTEMBER — ROUND 21

Parkmore	v	Newb/Yallourn
Uni Melb Blues	v	Ashburton
T'stowe Eagles	v	Br'meadows Utd
Riversdale	v	Keilor Utd
Ringwood Rovers	v	Melb. Uni Rangers
Elwood City	v	Monash Uni

ALTONA 0

HEIDELBERG 0 (HEIDELBERG WIN 5-4 ON PENALTIES) BY DWYGH TUFFNEL

Heidelberg United moved into the Grand Final of the Victorian Premier League with a win on penalties over Altona Magic.

Glenn Clarke's penalty save from Magic defender Robert Runje was the only thing to separate the two sides after 110 minutes of drab, unimaginative soccer.

Altona now travel next week to Sunshine's Chaplin Reserve where they will take on a confident Green Gully Cavaliers who earlier in the day disposed of the Sunshine Georgies.

Heidelberg, still missing the services of league leading scorer, Bobby Despotovski, played with Jeff Stefanidis and Andy Vlahos up front but only the latter had a clear cut chance before both were substituted in the 76th minute.

Like Altona's, Heidelberg's defence was resilient not allowing the usual threatening attacks from the Magic through.

Tom Markovski came closest to scoring for anyone when he headed Sava Rusmir's cross onto the crossbar in the 62nd minute.

Sash Becvinovski and Nick Georgopoulos displayed none of the form that has reaped 32 goals between them this season with notably Alan Scott and Dean Fak strong in their defensive duties.

Reigning champions Altona have yet to beat Heidelberg this season but Coach, Gary Cole thinks they are getting closer.

"We were outclassed when they beat us 5-0 earlier in the season but not today and if either side could have won today it would've been us."

"Instead it went to the lottery of a penalty shootout when anything can happen."

Becvinovski, Georgopoulos and Zdravko Atanasovski all converted their spot kicks before Clarke saved Runje's.

All four of Heidelberg's shots were successful before Con Boutsianis sent Darren McGrath the wrong way to send his team into the Grand Final.

Both Coaches agreed it was a poor game but Heidelberg Coach, Dusan Brnovic was happy just to make it through.

"My team played poorly but you must consider the players we had missing, Despotovski, George Georgiadis and Tom Karapatsos and with two young boys playing up front."

"We must play better in the Grand Final, today was a tough game with no quality but we have fourteen days to prepare and I am sure we will see a much better performance from my team."

Cole believes he can get the players back up for next week's Preliminary Final against Green Gully.

"They're a tight knit bunch and their self belief is high and most of these guys have already tasted championship glory and they want to do it again this year."

"It's a matter of us getting our heads up now for next week. This game is behind us now."

Magic: McGrath, Atanasovski, Tasevski, Runje, Micevski, Markovski, Rusmir, Georgopoulos, Becvinovski,

Velkovski, Petrov.

United: Clarke, Tsoumerkas, Scott, Fak, Iosifidis, MacNicol, Tyrikos, Svigos, Boutsianis, Vlahos (Karapatsos 76m), Stefanidis (Alexiou 76m).

Penalty Scorers: Magic - Becvinovski, Georgopoulos, Atanasovski, Petrov. Heidelberg - MacNicol, Svigos, Scott, Tsoumerkas, Boutsianis.

Yellow Cards: Magic - Runje 56m, Micevski 56m. Heidelberg - Scott 37m, Svigos 58m, Tyrikos 97m.

Red Cards: None.

Crowd: Approx 2,500.

Referee: Gerry Connolly

SUNSHINE 1 GREEN GULLY 2 BY JOHN RIGAS

Giant Killers, Green Gully Cavaliers continued their unbeaten run to 16 games, this time beating a disappointing Sunshine Georgies outfit in the minor semi final at Paisley Park on Sunday.

Sunshine's bad form in the finals continued as they were knocked out for the fourth consecutive time. Furthermore, the Georgies have lost their last five finals games in a row.

Green Gully were strengthened by the return of John Waddell and Steve Douglas to the starting line up, both players contributing to the first goal.

The Cavaliers had an impact on the scoreboard as early as in the sixth minute when a Waddell free kick was headed into the path of Douglas via Sunshine defender. Douglas easily put the ball past Steve Wardle.

Sunshine's problems started before the game when experienced sweeper, Mark Aretis pulled out as a result of a back injury. Aretis was replaced by right back Bill Makris, Makris along with goalkeeper Steve Wardle played a significant part in Green Gully's second goal.

Both players hesitated when a Tony Neceski long ball was played into the penalty box. Nippy striker Daniel Genovesi reacted the quickest and from an acute angle found the back of the net in the ninth minute.

Sunshine were awarded a penalty when Cavs defender Peter Spiteri fouled Juan Nilo with a tackle from behind. Nilo's spotkick was tapped onto the post by Chris Vella, Nilo followed up to score the rebound in the 25th minute.

Four minutes before half-time, Douglas sent in a cross intended for Neceski but Ilija Dragicevic intercepted and cleared the ball to safety.

Genovesi would have sensationally added a third goal when his lethal strike from 35 yards struck the crossbar, leaving Wardle breathing thin air.

Vella denied Sunshine an equalising goal when he stopped an Anthony Cassar strike which was goalbound in the 54th minute. Cavaliers Coach, Chris Taylor was impressed with Sunshine's performance remarking, "Our biggest problem was to get through this game all credit to Sunshine they proved alot of people wrong today they can hold their heads up high."

FINALS RESULTS

1ST SEMI FINAL

Sunshine Georgies 1 (Nilo 25m) - Green Gully Cavaliers 2 (Douglas 6m, Genovesi 9m)

2ND SEMI FINAL

Altona Magic 0 - Heidelberg Utd 0 (Heidelberg win 5-4 on penalties)

"We've achieved what we wanted to do and I think the other sides are going to be more worried about us than we are of them," ended Taylor.

Sunshine boss, Willie Vassallo remarked about the silly goal his team conceded, "the second goal was a matter of clearing it we had the players there, the keeper was there, everyone left it for each other."

"We played better than we have in the last few weeks, we had to rise to the occasion and these players came back with their heads held high."

Green Gully goes into next week's Preliminary final minus Peter Spiteri who earns an automatic one match suspension after receiving two yellow cards in the finals series.

Georgies: Wardle, Vassallo, Kanesoulis, Cassar, Dragicevic, Field, Makris, Nilo, De La Paiza (Tountas

81m), Tsirtsakis, De Bono. **Cavaliers:** Vella, Spiteri (Stafrace 40m), Cimino, Chetcuti, Douglas (Brown 63m), Waddell, Suric, Neceski, Scoble, Genovesi (Maglovski 82m), Babic.

Scorers: Georgies - Nilo 25m.

Cavaliers - Douglas 6m, Genovesi 9m.

Yellow Cards: Georgies - Field 4m, Makris 21m, Dragicevic 61m, De Bono 66m. **Cavaliers -** Spiteri 24m, Stafrace 61m.

Red Cards: Nil.

Crowd: Approx 2500.

Referee: Andrew Stacey



NEXT WEEKS FIXTURES

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 8 PRELIMINARY FINAL

ALTONA MAGIC

Versus

GREEN GULLY CAVALIERS

Kick off 3.00pm

MATCH TO BE PLAYED AT:

CHAPLIN RESERVE,
SUNSHINE



Brian MacNicol: Instrumental in Heidelberg's narrow win over Altona Magic.



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PREMIER LEAGUE IS COACHING WASTELAND

BY GREG BLAKE

What was once a moderately humorous gag about the revolving door policy of coaching appointments in the Victorian Premier League developed into an ugly black comedy in 1996.

Victoria's most senior fourteen clubs managed to swap and change their way through 27 coaches in the regular season just ended.

Eight of the 14 teams made changes mid-stream — a regrettable league record high — with some opting for more than two sacrificial lambs during the course of a 26-match schedule.

The changes do not take into account those made during the close-season, making the gruesome figures in the coaching war of attrition even more startling.

And while the penchant for blaming the coach is a worldwide disease, Victoria's Premier League clubs appear to have turned the coaching

round-about into an art form.

Admittedly, not all of the mid-season coaching changes this year were born of the chopping block, for example Altona Magic having had to slip Gary Cole into Ian Dobson's shoes when the latter moved up a grade to Ericsson Cup level with Melbourne Knights.

But generally the coaches who went mid-year were either pushed or forced to walk the plank.

I wonder if the bells are ringing yet at any of the clubs who did decide that the coaching grass might be greener, given that six of the eight clubs who opted for change mid-year finished in the bottom eight places on the ladder.

Generally the changes made little difference, although the trend statistically went marginally against the replacement coaches.

In a season in which they publicly vowed would bring stability to the club, Albion outdid itself by cutting a path through four coaches in 1996

and still managed to finish third from bottom.

Albion is one of the main culprits when it comes to the coach-clubbing caper.

Only John Dowie, who took the club to the finals for the first and only time last year, has seen out a full season since the club returned to the Premier League a few years ago.

His 30-game stint at Albion, which ended just four matches into the 1996 season, is the longest of any of the remarkable total of 17 senior coaches used by the club since 1991.

Claude Lucchesi, who has filled in as caretaker boss at Selwyn Park on a number of occasions, is one of a number of familiar faces who ride the coaching roller-coaster on a regular basis.

Similarly, clubs like Albion, St Albans and Fawkner have ensured that coaching contracts are hardly worth the paper they are written on.

These types of clubs appear to have been unable or

unwilling to address deep-rooted problems and lack of success in any constructive manner, electing the easy option of coaching scapegoats, to no avail.

In statistical terms Victorian clubs penchant for swapping and changing coaches mid-season is generally ill-advised, with success in percentage terms very limited.

On the odd occasion the mid-season drama of a coaching change has actually been a moderately successful ploy, but on a short term band-aid basis only.

The 'trade-up' success trend spans each of the more recent Premier League campaigns.

Remember the successes of journeyman Les Carter, then at Albion, and Thomastown's Len McKendry in 1992, which suggests that mid-stream changes can work and that seemingly poor teams can be transformed.

In 1993 John Waddell blasted Sunshine out of the doldrums and into the finals. Ian Dobson laid the

foundations for Altona Magic's outstanding 1994 and 1995 campaigns, while Bill Murray and David Jones at Green Gully and Croydon respectively, all but saved those clubs from almost certain relegation in recent seasons.

Peter Ollerton dramatically turned the fortunes of ailing Bulleen in 1995 and this year Frank Arok transformed Port Melbourne almost overnight, even if he had to replace a coach who still boasts one of the overall best win/loss records in recent Premier League history, Takis Svigos.

Overall a remarkable 28 of the 44 Premier League mid-season coaching changes since 1991 have proven successful in win-loss terms, although mostly the improvement has been marginal and brief.

In all Victorian clubs have switched more than 100 times mid-stream or during the off-season since the start of the 1991 campaign.

A word of warning to clubs however, as only four of the 25 teams to contest the finals

since 1991 have played off under a coach bought in mid-season.

It surely is sometimes far too tough a school for Victorian Premier League coaches.

Remarkably, only one current Premier League coach — Green Gully's Chris Taylor — remains in charge of the same club that he did on the last day of the 1994 home and away campaign. In fact only three — Taylor, Box Hill's Robert Ruffalo and Sunshine Georgies boss Willie Vassallo — are as they were at the end of the '95 season, just 11 months ago.

— is still in the same job.

And what of the likes of Henryk Sass and Frank McGrellis, the former the coach at Sunshine going in to 1994 and the latter boss of Doncaster on the eve of the 1995 campaign?

Neither made it to the starting line and were replaced before game one of the season, before a ball was even kicked.



NOT ONE DATES BACK AS FAR AS 1993

Not a single Premier League championship winning coach from the 1990's is still on deck at the same club and only one of the coaches to feature in the 1995 finals series — Vassallo at Sunshine

This exclusive ABSW table charts the progress of the old coaches and new faces in the Premier League for the last six seasons, with the lists of mid-season coaching fatalities apparently growing each year.

The chart takes in games up to and including the final home and away round of the 1996 season (not including finals matches).

1991	ORIGINAL COACH						REPLACEMENT					
Club	Out	P	W	D	L	%	In	P	W	D	L	%
Northcote City	Millios	12	2	2	8	25.0	Bozikas	14	4	2	8	35.7
St Albans	Bebic	14	4	4	6	42.9	Vrzina	12	4	6	2	58.3
Albion	Hennessey	16	4	6	6	43.7	Russell	10	5	2	3	60.0
Altona Magic	Maclaren	21	10	6	5	63.4	Presilski	5	3	0	2	60.0
*four changes												

1992	ORIGINAL COACH						REPLACEMENT					
Club	Out	P	W	D	L	%	In	P	W	D	L	%
Oakleigh	Cirkovic	8	1	1	6	18.8	Margaritis	9	1	2	6	22.2
Oakleigh	Margaritis	9	1	2	6	22.2	Nicoglou	9	2	0	7	22.2
Thomastown	Yzendoorn	9	2	3	4	38.9	Tavolaro	3	0	0	3	00.0
Thomastown	Tavolaro	3	0	0	3	00.0	McKendry	14	12	1	4	73.5
Albion	Campbell	9	1	2	6	22.2	Carter	17	12	1	4	73.5
Sunshine G	Murray	14	5	5	3	57.7	Wagstaff	13	5	5	3	57.7
Altona Magic	Mitrovski	15	4	5	6	43.3	Maclaren	11	2	3	6	31.8
*seven changes												

1993	ORIGINAL COACH						REPLACEMENT					
Club	Out	P	W	D	L	%	In	P	W	D	L	%
Sunshine G	Kulak	7	2	2	3	42.9	Waddell	10	11	4	4	68.4
Altona Magic	Micevski	9	2	2	5	33.3	Parton	2	0	1	1	25.0
Altona Magic	Parton	2	0	1	1	25.0	Dobson	15	6	7	2	63.3
Green Gully	Kalcic	18	2	6	10	27.8	Murray	8	3	4	1	62.5
Croydon City	Hennessey	19	2	9	8	34.2	Jones	7	2	1	4	35.7
Brunswick J	Rogers	23	8	3	12	41.3	Colangeli	3	2	0	1	66.7
Albion	Cirkovic	24	8	9	7	52.1	Lucchesi	2	1	1	0	75.0
*seven changes												

1994	ORIGINAL COACH						REPLACEMENT					
Club	Out	P	W	D	L	%	In	P	W	D	L	%
Albion	Kalezic	2	0	1	1	25.0	Lucchesi	5	0	2	3	20.0
Albion	Lucchesi	5	0	2	3	20.0	Davie	3	0	1	2	16.7
Albion	Davie	3	0	1	2	16.7	Carter	16	5	5	6	46.8
Fawkner	Culina	14	2	7	5	39.3	Murphy	6	2	4	0	75.0
Fawkner	Murphy	5	2	4	0	75.0	Micovski	6	0	2	4	16.7
St Albans	Carter	9	3	3	3	50.0	Blazinin	17	3	5	9	32.4
Thomastown	Gardiner	4	1	1	2	37.5	Ferrante	22	3	6	13	27.3
*seven changes												

1995	ORIGINAL COACH						REPLACEMENT					
Club	Out	P	W	D	L	%	In	P	W	D	L	%
Sunshine G	Collard	3	0	1	2	16.7	Vassallo	23	11	9	2	67.4
Preston	Ollerton	5	1	1	3	30.0	Lane	13	33	5	5	42.3
Preston	Lane	13	3	5	5	42.3	Pate	8	2	1	5	31.3
Bulleen	Olver	9	1	4	4	33.3	Ollerton	17	10	5	2	73.5
Fawkner	Carter	11	3	3	5	30.9	Vrzina	15	6	2	7	46.7
Werribee City	Egan	20	3	6	11	50.0	Douglas	6	2	0	4	33.3
St Albans	Vanis	20	6	4	10	40.0	Runje	6	1	1	4	25.0
Doncaster R's	O'Connor	22	2	0	11	29.5	McBride	4	2	1	1	62.5
*eight changes												

1996	ORIGINAL COACH						REPLACEMENT					
Club	Out	P	W	D	L	%	In	P	W	D	L	%
Altona Magic	Dobson	2	2	0	0	100.0	Cole	24	16	2	6	70.8
Albion	Downie	4	0	1	3	12.5	Murray	7	0	0	7	00.0
Albion	Murray	7	0	0	7	00.0	Lucchesi	3	1	1	1	50.0
Albion	Lucchesi	3	1	1	1	50.0	Macleod	12	4	4	4	50.0
Fawkner	Vrzina	7	0	2	5	14.3	Rainey	10	2	2	6	30.0
Fawkner	Rainey	10	2	2	6	30.0	McLachlan	9	2	3	4	38.9
Springvale C	Macleod	8	2	0	6	25.0	Colangeli	18	1	6	11	22.2
Pt. Melbourne	Svigos	10	1	6	3	40.0	Arok	16	10	3	3	71.9
Heidelberg U	Bozikas	11	7	3	1	77.3	Brnovic	15	9	2	4	66.7
Bulleen	Ollerton	12	4	4	4	50.0	Bozikas	14	4	5	5	46.4
St Albans	Runje	15	3	3	9	30.0	O'Connor	11	2	3	6	31.8
*eleven changes												



THE MEN CURRENTLY IN PREMIER LEAGUE HOT SEATS:

Coach	Club	Years	P	W	D	L
Chris Taylor	Green Gully	94 to 96	78	32	23	23
Robert Ruffalo	Box Hill Inter	95 to 96	52	12	14	26
Willie Vassallo	Sunshine Geo	95* to 96	48	27	13	8
Harry Chalkitis	Bentleigh Gr's	1996	26	15	4	7
Ken Murphy	Thom'n Zebras	1996	26	13	7	6
Steve Radojovic	Nth Geelong	1996	26	8	5	13
Gary Cole	Altona Magic	1996*	24	16	2	6
John Colangeli	Springvale City	1996*	18	1	6	11
Frank Arok	Port Melbourne	1996*	16	10	3	3
Dusan Brnovic	Heidelberg Utd	1996*	15	9	2	4
Andy Bozikas	Bulleen	1996*	14	4	5	5
Gus MacLeod	Albion	1996*	12	4	4	4
Dave O'Connor	St Albans	1996*	11	2	3	6
Bob McLachlan	Fawkner	1996*	9	2	3	4
*Denotes part season only						



WOMEN'S WRITES

BY JANENE MAR



TIGHT BATTLE FOR YOUTH CROWN

Perth is the venue for this year's Australian Youth Championship in what may be one of the tightest contents yet for the title.

Kicking off this Sunday, the 1996 event sees seven States doing battle - ACT, NSW, NNSW, QLD, SA, VIC and WA. In this age group especially, ITC players make up a large number of each of the teams, making for some very interesting competition.

Defending champions NSW, although with some exciting talent, are fielding a very young and inexperienced side, and may find the going tougher to repeat their success.

In with the best chance to deny the Blues appears to be Queensland, ACT and Victoria, each with a nucleus of experienced and skilful players.

But any of the teams is capable of scoring the odd upset, and picking favourites in the age championships over the last two years has become a risky business. In this time, the overall level of standards and professionalism has increased immensely across the nation, and with it, the historical dominance of NSW and Queensland has diminished.

It remains to be seen who will emerge as Youth Champions this year.

NNSW ITC PROOF IN NUMBERS

NNSW ITC's domination of the NSW Women's State League in taking out the titles of Premiers and Champions, and the Waratah Shield final still to be played, has coach Mark Jones excited about the success of the program and the future of the game in Australia.

"Twelve of the sixteen players are in the Australian Schoolgirls, Under 15s, OAP Squad or Train-On group, and have been used by (National Coach) Tom Sermanni or are part of his plans for the future," said Jones.

Northern's squad includes such players as Australian Team members Shelley Youman, and Bridgette Starr, OAP member Tracie McGovern, and Trudi Diamond and Danielle Small.

"The major thing is that eight of these players never represented Australia before the ITC came into existence," Jones added. "It's testimony to the strength of role the ITC program is playing."

After both the NNSW and NSW ITCs finished near the bottom of the ladder in their debut WSL season last year, the two have shown great strides to make the Top Four in 1996.

But Northern's success has also brought out the critics, suggesting some of its players fall outside the ITC criteria. "Only one non-Australian Squad member is overage," responded Jones. "The rest are aged between 21 and 15."

"Looking at the development achieved in the program's first two years, anything is possible. The ITCs are at the forefront in terms of the players moving into the National Squads."

AUSTRALIAN YOUTH CHAMPIONSHIP 1996

Gibney Reserve, Queen St, Maylands, Perth.

SUN 8 SEPT

9.00	Opening Ceremony		
10.00	NSW	v	ACT
11.45	QLD	v	VIC
1.30	NNSW	v	WA
3.15	SA	v	NSW

MON 9 SEPT

10.00	VIC	v	WA
11.45	QLD	v	ACT
1.30	NNSW	v	SA

TUES 10 SEPT

9.30	WA	v	ACT
11.15	VIC	v	SA
1.00	QLD	v	NSW
2.45	NNSW	v	ACT

WED 11 SEPT

10.00	SA	v	WA
11.15	NNSW	v	QLD
1.00	NSW	v	VIC

THU 12 SEPT

9.30	SA	v	QLD
11.15	NSW	v	NNSW
1.00	ACT	v	VIC
2.45	QLD	v	WA

FRI 13 SEPT

10.00	VIC	v	NNSW
11.15	WA	v	NSW
1.00	ACT	v	SA

SAT 14 SEPT

3.00	FINAL		
	AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY		

1. Amy Beattie
2. Melissa de Ryck
3. Felicity Cox
4. Amy Taylor
5. Louise Corbett
6. Tracy Florio
8. Laura Jennings

9. Amanda Meech
10. Kim Channing
11. Angela Osztrekovic
12. Stan Williams
13. Bronwyn Toms
14. Tracey Arousseau
15. Kylie Clark

Coach: David Pierce

NEW SOUTH WALES

1. Jenny Praszczalek
2. Danielle Clarke
3. Neisha Klessateel
4. Maria Calligas
5. Rochelle Doyle
6. Sandra Stavrou
7. Heather Garriock
8. Kelly Golebiowski
9. Taryn Rockall
10. Nicole Davis
11. Lisa Collins
12. Amanda Boyle
13. Ashleigh Hewson
14. Kristine Collins
15. Danielle Smith
16. Cassandra Kell

Coach: Leigh Wardell

NORTHERN NEW SOUTH WALES

- Tracy Baker
- Kelly-An Digby
- Kristy Dugomanov
- Kristy Palozzi
- Alisha Powick
- Michelle O'Connor
- Nicole Maynier
- Jodie McNair
- Angie Scheibel
- Kristy Wright
- Bronwyn Nutley
- Naomi James
- Georgina Lomax

Relay Ingles

Coach: Mark Jones

QUEENSLAND

1. Joanne Butland
2. Lisa Elkins
3. Sarah Garven
4. Kate Stork
5. Kathryn Volpi
6. Jodie Hammond
7. Lindsay Whiddett
8. Nicole Zammit
9. Lisa Wilkes
10. Jacinta Stevens
11. April Mann
12. Olivia Hohnke
13. Katrina Bell
14. Alicia Ferguson
15. Jennifer Harris
16. Brooke Short
17. Meagan Slean
18. Leah McDonald

Coach: Jeff Howarth

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

1. Emma Wirkus
2. Belinda Rawlik
3. Sally Buckman
4. Jackie Giogines
5. Bernadette Mazzone
6. Kandy Panacopoulos
7. Nicole Leonardis
8. Robyn Huiskamp
9. Katrina Mahony
10. Dimi Lekkas
11. Jasmine Orr
12. Niki Phillips
13. Jackie Passlon
14. Natalie Thomas
15. Rebecca Welk
16. Melanie Burnell

Coach: Robert Booth

VICTORIA

1. Emma Bracken
2. Louisa Bisby
3. Joanne Satler
4. Claire Hepper
5. Natalie Bruzzese
6. Caroline McEvoy
7. Kirsten Shuttleworth
8. Sarah Poyser
9. Michelle Fuller
10. Silvana Cosic
11. Melissa Barbieri
12. Emma Rea
13. Bronwyn Carey
14. Mary Attard
15. Belinda Godfrey
16. Christine Magnano
17. Emma McEvoy
18. Maria Kovacic

Coach: Jeff Olver

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

1. Lisa Beatty
2. Kylie Thomas
3. Cathy Young
4. Tal Karp
5. Sarah Castell
6. Deb Corton
7. Arianne Missikos
8. Sandy Culum
9. Jessine Bonzas
10. Leanne Hill
11. Diana Merlacco
12. Sara Gawneo
13. Yolanda Danting
14. Belinda Hayward
15. Novella Avezu
16. Candice McMinn

Coach: Jackie Wheeler



Kelly Golebiowski (R): Will be hoping to assist NSW to the Australian Youth Championship in Perth starting on Sunday.

"Hopefully the ITC program will be allowed to continue," said Jones. "After just two years, NSW won the WSL against all the seasoned veterans. And the success of the young Australian team in the USA recently augurs well for the future. With this rapid rate of improvement, who knows what might be achieved as we build towards a medal in the year 2000."

NEW COACH FOR MARCONI

NSW WSL runners up Marconi have appointed a new coach in Zoran Kilbarda.

It is believed former Australian captain Anissa Tann-Darby will be scaling down her football commitments after fulfilling the difficult role of player/coach for Marconi.

Kilbarda has previous WSL experience and is also strongly involved in the national indoor soccer scene. He will be moving straight into his new challenge with trials to be conducted at 2pm on 8, 14 and 15 September.

CRANBOURNE CHAMPIONS

Cranbourne have been crowned Victorian League Champions after an impressive Grand Final victory over Premiers Melbourne Zebras last week.

The win was sweet revenge over the young Zebras who had taken over their long held domination of the competition. "It was good to beat them and show that us oldies aren't quite beaten yet," said Cranbourne player Kim Evans.

The nucleus of Cranbourne's squad has been together for at least five years, but this season was joined by a few new youngsters including Leigh Terek and Kirsten Shuttleworth, both of whom scored in the match with Terek putting away two crackers. Player/coach Jane Oakley also contributed a goal.

Played in testing winds, the match ended in a 4-0 scoreline. "But it was no

mean walkover," said Evans. "They are a very good side, but I think it all boiled down to the fact that we wanted to win more. Ours was a good tame effort, with everyone putting in 150%."

THREE IN A ROW FOR STURT MARION

South Australia's pace-setters Sturt Marion last week

won the Bailetti Cup for the third consecutive time, defeating Metro Knights 4-1 in the final at Hindmarsh Stadium.

Australian Team members Sharon Black and Kristyn Swaffer led from the front for Sturt, pounding the Metro goal from the opening whistle. Only the relentless defence of Metro keeper Anita Monlin and sweeper Franca Di Bartolo kept the favourites scoreless for the first half

hour.

Then in the 30th minute, Black beat two defenders down the left wing before unleashing a 25 metre screamer to open the scoring.

In the second half, Sturt let loose in attack and were rewarded with three more goals. Black scored again in the 60th minute, with Swaffer then successful from long range in the next minute. Black completed her hattrick with seven minutes remaining.

In the final seconds, Metro finished off in style through a



ASICS
COMPETITION
WINNERS WILL BE
ANNOUNCED NEXT
WEEK.

Marconi-Fairfield WOMEN'S SOCCER TEAMS

Trials will be held on the Marconi No. 3 ground at the rear of the Club as follows:

Sunday, September 8, 1996
Saturday, September 14, 1996
Sunday, September 15, 1996
at 2 pm on each day

Marconi have a 1st and Reserve team playing in the NSW Soccer Federation State League Division 1.

Girls of all ages from 16 years are invited to attend with their usual playing gear.

For further information:

Please ring George Streeter at Club Marconi

Phone: 9823 2222

Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday from 12 noon



Alan Shearer: Newcastle United and England.

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BALL OUT, GRAHAM REFUSES MAN CITY JOB

League Division 1.

This led to a joke or two, one of which is, what's the difference between Kevin Keegan, Alan Ball and the Titanic? The last two should never have left Southampton!

The supporters will be hoping Graham can resurrect his managerial career with the Manchester club but be warned! Winning trophies has a very nice feel about it and we all know it cannot last, especially when the reserves are neglected. Money does not grow on trees and for all the cash made by Chairman Frannie Lee over the years, it's unlikely he'll have too much to throw into the transfer market.

Sincere best wishes to Messrs Ball and Graham for the future, the fans of Manchester City need something to cheer about after living in the shadow of cross town rivals United in recent times. Here comes the Messiah from the wilderness?

THE DEBATE

The debate on logos continues at present and a very dirty taste it appears to be leaving in the mouth for many. Hardly surprising really when you consider the facts.

AC Milan, Juventus in Italy, Newells Old Boys and Everton in South America and many, many other club sides around the world were formed by Brits and retain some recognition of this. Nobody could accuse these clubs of being foreign in any way, shape or form. It certainly hasn't stemmed the flow of merchandising revenue coming in and you don't find the sides supported solely by ex-pats in the respective countries.

A similar situation arises with the flag of this great nation. Republicans want a new flag devoid of the Union Flag in the top left hand corner. Why? It is not there to show sovereign imperialism. The argument was summed up for me when reading a poem by an old digger who said The Southern Cross shows where we are and the flag in the corner shows us where we've been.

A beautiful sentiment that can surely be applied to this matter. The emblem on club shirts isn't going to turn people away from the grounds, the element inside might but certainly not the emblem. Perhaps the anti gun lobby would stay away from Arsenal as their name and nickname, the Gunners, are of a political nature to them. That statement wouldn't hold water and neither does the

argument of logos.

While this dirty washing is being aired in public, it won't do our great game any good but one must ask the question of whether there is a hidden agenda somewhere along the line, watch my left hand and you don't see what the right ones doing?

Suggestions of a break-away league set up by clubs not prepared to cower to Soccer Australia's demands could well be premature and in all honesty, one reader wrote that though a side like Marconi can boast a membership of some 20,000 plus, this does not translate to the terraces.

Everyone knows a lot has to be done to get our game on the map in this land but stupidity will go nowhere into helping anyone achieve this. I feel that there are some very interesting times ahead for footie in Australia and though having been a staunch supporter of what David Hill, George Negus and Co have been trying to achieve in recent times, I reckon they've got this one wrong. Everyone's entitled to make a mistake and the SA track record to date appears to have seen vindication of their actions but a tiny matter like this makes no sense.

Bigger issues are at work here but an impassioned plea from a mere mortal such as myself to all parties concerned, sort it out before all the good work is irrevocably destroyed.

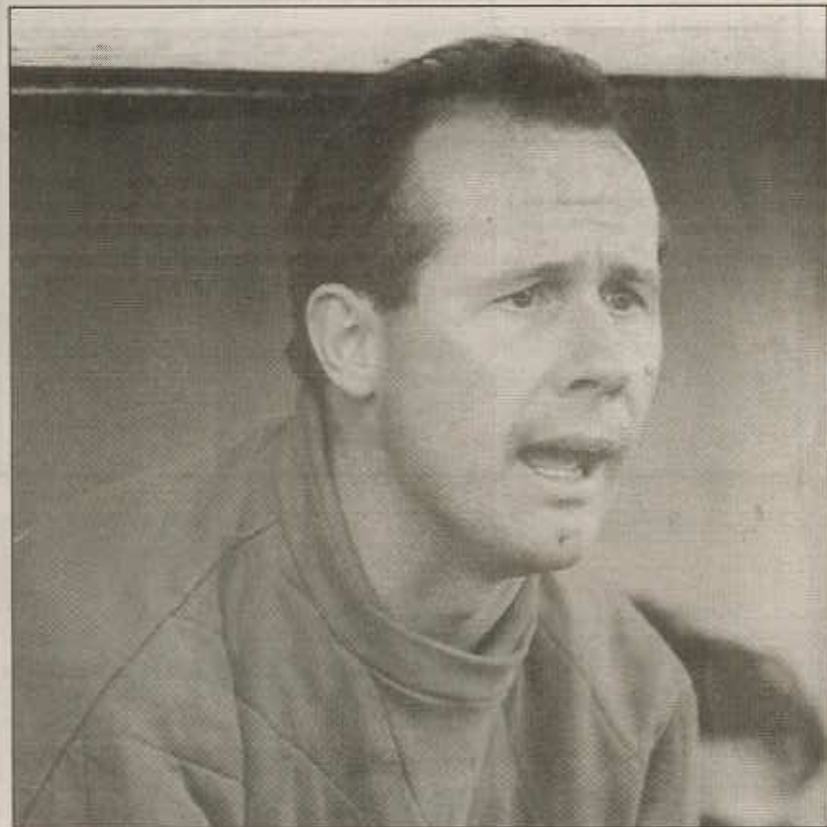
THE LIAM BRADY STORY

Video Review

Liam Brady became a firm favourite of the fans with very club he turned out for. This video covers his playing days but also traces his younger days from a lad who lived in a "keyhole" street to international stardom. Truly one of the most gifted players to ever grace the midfield of his various clubs that began with Arsenal before going on to show his talents to the fans of Juventus, Sampdoria, Ascoli, West Ham and the Republic of Ireland to name but a few.

However, this item would be of enormous interest to any serious fan of the game. Beautifully shot in various locations around the world from Ireland to Italy to England etc. This is the story of a local Dublin boy made good and very well done it is too!

In this testimonial to his sporting career, we see his



Liam Brady: This video tribute does some small justice to his ability.

consummate skills on display of course but for those not lucky enough to have ever seen this lad play in the flesh, it also helps to explain why the Brady Phenomenon could excite his supporters while breaking the hearts of the opposing fans in the same instant. A midfield general that the great Pat Jennings described as: "a unique talent and a magic left foot."

"Chippy" as he is known in England, didn't get his name for chipping the ball (but you'll have to buy the video to find out the real season?) became known in Italy as: "un very gentiluomo", a rough translation of "the perfect gentleman". He is certainly that but also a great worker in the Anti Drugs Campaign which many may not know.

I've been a supporter of Liam Brady from the first time I saw him play way back in 1973 and this video does him some small justice. A great man, a great player, a great video.

Star Rating: *****

Priced at 16:49 Stg and available from: Tracks Videos, 14 Railway St, Hertford, Herts SG14-1BG. Fill out the coupon below to receive news of the "buy four get one free" deal by entering the missing letters. NO Photocopies are acceptable, you must use the official coupon in this paper.

Shock and even greater horror! Sheffield Wednesday

remain the only side with a 100% record in the Premiership after three games. Nine points out of nine and it's not as if they're playing the worst sides! Last week's win over Newcastle was an amazing result, even more so considering it was at ST JAMES PARK.

The Geordie fans are not happy at the moment but things will improve no doubt. well done and best of luck to the Owls fans I met at the Hospital recently. Poor buggers were suffering from altitude sickness?

A couple of brief messages here. Firstly to Dave and Joyce Ball, we hope you enjoy your trip to England and the presentation of the Player of

at the club for arranging the pre-match and after match meal and drinkies with the players too.

Tottenham Hotspur have a supporters club in NSW and Australia at long last. All interested parties should contact Jason Menzies at 12 Bradham Street, Merrylands, NSW 2160 or call on (02) 9682 3146 or Mob 014 617 326 for further details.

To Robbie Wheatley, hope the flu has finally subsided. Don't forget Colin Turner's British Soccer Sport and Talk show very Saturday night from 11pm (ish) onwards on 2KY Radio, 1017. Optus Vision will be screening the Premier League Sunday (delayed) and Monday (live) matches.



the Year trophy to Dennis Bergkamp on the pitch before the Arsenal v Sunderland game on Saturday September 28.

Thanks go to Phil Carling

Alan Ball has left Manchester City for an as yet unknown destination and strong rumour has it a certain George Graham will be taking over the reins at Maine Road.

This may seem like the second coming of the Messiah for the Light Blue faithful but it does warrant a closer look.

ALAN BALL

Born in Farnworth, Lancashire 12/5/45 and began his career as an apprentice with Blackpool before joining Everton. Moved on to Arsenal, Southampton, Blackpool, Southampton and finally Bristol Rovers before calling it a day. He played a total of 743 first class games plus just one appearance as a sub, scoring some 169 goals



in the process. He was a member of England's World Cup winning side of 1966 and also represented his country at 'A' international level on 72 occasions.

He also gained eight U/23 caps, and represented the England Football League side in his favourite midfield berth.

GEORGE GRAHAM

Born Bargeddie 30/11/44 and joined Aston Villa as an apprentice. Moved onto Chelsea, Arsenal (playing a major role in the Double Winning side of 1971), Man Utd, Portsmouth and finally winding down his career with Crystal Palace in 1977.

Nicknamed The Stroller by his team mates, he went on to become arguably the greatest manager in the Gunners history when bringing two Championships, two League Cups, one FA Cup and the

some peculiar signings were made. All added to the bung scandal which only compounded matters further.

George will have learnt a lot from that little episode in his life and hopefully it can now be forgotten and his skill as a manager can be remembered along with the silky playing style that earned the tag of Stroller. Some things have to be remembered though and with a club like Manchester City not being as flush with money as some perhaps, they need to look to the reserves to supplement this. They have good players in Rosler and Co but a mixture of youth and talent is paramount for success. Enthusiasm plus wise old heads.

Alan Ball took over at Maine Road after leaving Southampton amidst controversy and some will see this as poetic justice as he led City down to the nationwide

Caledonian Thistle

(now Inverness CT)

BY STUART JONES

Ground: Telford Street Park.
Address: Telford Street Park Inverness IV3 5LU.
Railway Station: Inverness.
Founded: 1885 + 1886 (Original clubs). New Club 1994.
Admitted to League: 1994.
Ground Capacity: 5,498.
Seats: 498.
Pitch Size: 110 yards by 70 yards.
Largest Gate: 3,062 v Ross County.
Biggest Win: 5-2 v Arbroath Div 3 13 Aug, 1994.

Biggest Loss: 0-4 v Queens Park Div 3, 20 Aug, 1994 v Montrose Div 3, 14 Feb, 1995.

Nickname: "The Jags."
Colours: Blue and White.
Honours: No major honours as an amalgamated club.

History: In 1994 Inverness Thistle FC and Caledonian FC joined forces to make a bid for one of the two spots in the new look Scottish League. Amidst a background of promotion candidates each season with a rich vein of talent from the Highlands to draw from along with the other newcomers Ross County. However this promise has yet to be fulfilled and the last two seasons have been ones of disappointment. This year they added Inverness back to their name and there are rumours of a new stadium for the club. They finished third last season, 6 points off second place and automatic promotion to Division Two.



David Ginola: Looks like he could be on his way from St James Park. He says he is doing too much defending — gee that is tough.

Weird and Wonderful

David Ginola looks like he could be on his way from St James Park. He says he is doing too much defending — gee that is tough. You don't get paid all that money to do defending do you? And here's the latest — he may be going to Arsenal. Now is it me or do you think he'll be doing even more defending at the Gunners?

They play with 9 or 10 behind the ball sometimes don't they. Okay they may want a more European club and have a Frenchman coming as manager but what will Ginola do in the interim. And how will he and Lee Dixon get along? Will he be seen more than the immensely talented but MIA Glenn Helder?

It's interesting days ahead at Gillespie Road if Ginola does head there.

Great to see the smaller clubs take advantage of the Bosman case. Carlisle have just got a Frenchman on a free when he is valued around 40,000. What out we will probably sell him mid season just before a crunch game.

With Ball departing Man City (he couldn't really stay there could he?) wait for the Mori transfer — will it go ahead? Talk is of George Graham — they just got rid of Niall Quinn so I'm sure Graham is much more happy to go there now. But will Kinkladze be treated like Limpar, will Rocastle return to Maine Road? Paul Dikov will end up in the reserves again only weeks after his million pound transfer from Arsenal to City. Look out for a sneaky bid for Lukic, a bid to lure Brian Marwood out of retirement, Michael Thomas to turn his back on Anfield, and Perry Groves to make a miracle return from Cyprus to come off the bench at Maine Road.

Graham will once again be implementing his youth policy. And look out for the bid for Ray Parlour which will smash the record transfer fee paid for by Newcastle for Shearer's services. Call me cynical but I don't know that Graham would work at City. Then again they can't get much more bluer.

When overseas last I visited two ground quite close to each other — Spennymoor Athletic and Bishop Auckland. Spennymoor had a unique gate as the entrance. It invites the fans in but apart from that the ground is fairly plain and probably won't even make even the Conference. Then there is Auckland's ground. Being careful not to offend the relatives, Auckland shares one thing in common with Sheffield United (well United until the early 1970s anyway). One half of the field borders on the cricket ground. Being the first three sided ground I had been to I found the whole idea amazing. If there were crowds wouldn't the noise be defused by the lack of one side. There obviously were signs that temporary stands could be put up but I doubt the crowds would come flocking back for that.

While probably not good for the team I like the weird formation of the two grounds — and the cricket that day was quite good too. What would it have been like for a big club like United though?

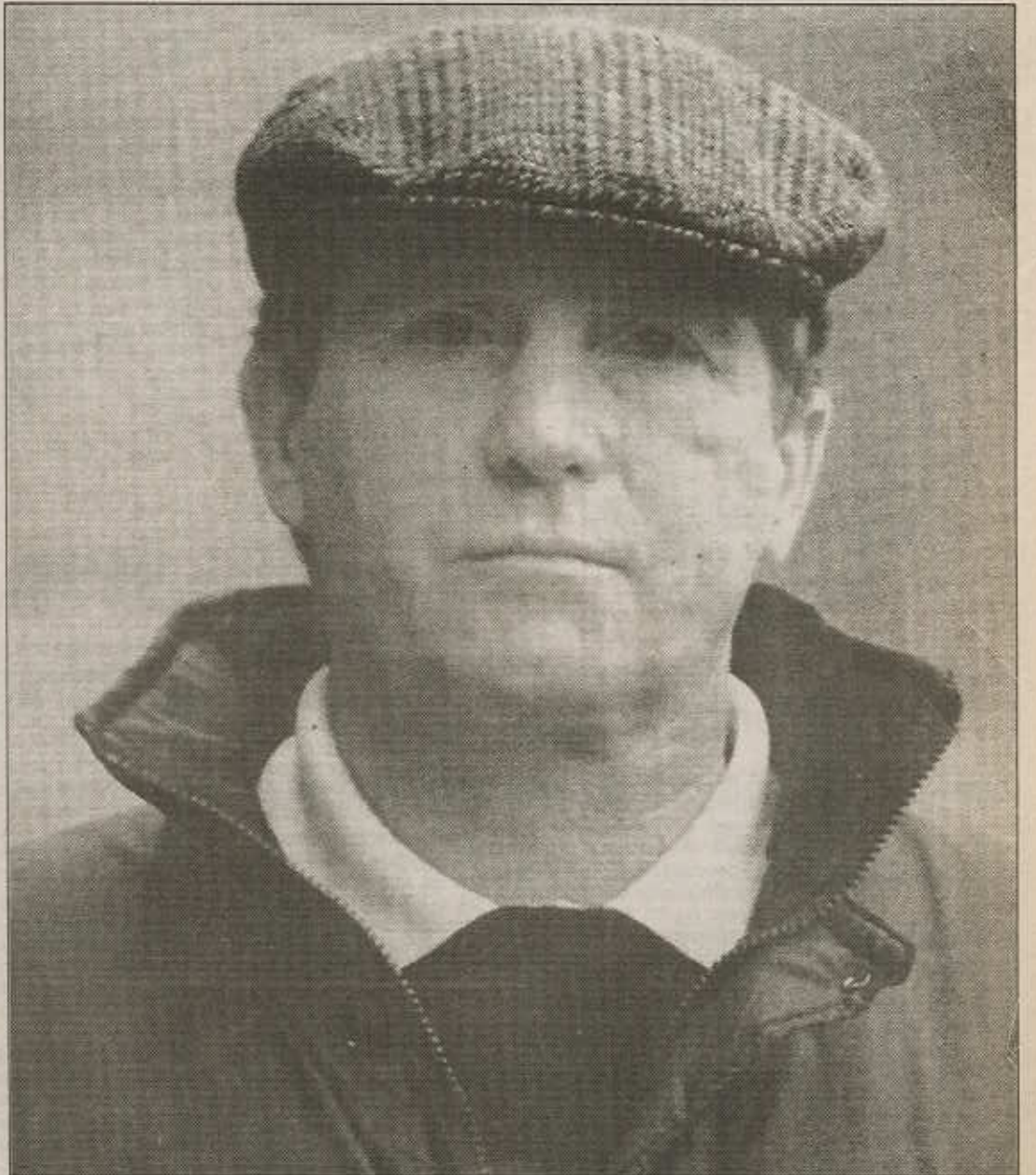
Middlesbrough's Jim McClelland scored five goals against Leeds in a cup tie in 1926, on the day his wife gave birth to a son. The boy, Charles, grew up to play for Blackburn.

Goalie Les Wood was with Huddersfield in the 1950s — and his dad was a League referee. Of course Wood senior did not get a game involving his son.

Stability was always a key to Arsenal's success. However three Arsenal players made their first team debuts on the same day and never played for the Gunners again. After Walsall defeated Arsenal in that well known FA Cup game Tommy Black went to Plymouth, Charlie Walsh to Brentford, and a month later Billy Warnes went to Norwich.

Sheffield Wednesday are top of the pops at present but no one is laying money on them for the title just yet. But what of Newcastle? — apparently Mr Keegan has been told they don't want pretty football but trophies this season (mind you I'm sure Sir John Hall would not mind both but trophies have priority). Pressure is a killer of a thing.

Finally Alex Ferguson is upset not enough time was added on in a PL game recently. Not the best way to behave in front of players known for their volatility. The lads and the boss better be careful or Man Utd will get a reputation they would not like. (Mind you in most fans eyes they already have but let's be nice to them they do have some great players play good football and will be England's main hope in Europe — its just they play for the wrong club!)



Alan Ball: Departing Manchester City after they were relegated from the Premier League to Division One. Unfortunately Ball's managerial success has never matched his ability as a midfield creator. His greatest hour came thirty years ago when England won the World Cup.

UK STORIES

England gives Hoddle good start

England opened its World Cup campaign with a 3-0 win over Moldova in a European Group Two qualifier on Sunday.

Moldova squandered the chance of a consolation three minutes before the final whistle when it missed a penalty.

England, took a while to assert its supremacy over the underdogs from the former Soviet Union and had to wait until the 24th minute before it went ahead through Barmby.

Right back Gary Neville supplied the cross for Barmby to sidefoot home from close range.

Less than two minutes later Paul Ince lobbed the ball up for Gascoigne to score with a looping header.

Shearer should have made it 3-0 three minutes before halftime but lofted Barmby's cutback pass over the bar from close range.

However, Shearer, who cost Newcastle \$A30 million from Blackburn after his goalscoring heroics in the European Championship, made amends when he pounced to score in the 61st minute.



Alan Shearer: Sealed England's win with the third and final goal.

High Expectations of England

England's Glenn Hoddle may be one of the youngest managers in international football, but he has been around long enough and seen enough headlines to realise his new job is no passport to the easy life.

The rest of England may still be on a high after the dramas of Euro 96.

But the 38-year-old national boss warned that last Sunday's opening World Cup qualifier in Moldova would be no end-of-summer picnic.

Hoddle's first match in charge of the national squad since succeeding Terry Venables after June's European Championship, was England's first first competitive clash on foreign soil for almost three years.

The English public expects great things of Hoddle after the success of the European Championship - when only a penalty shoot-out miss against Germany cost England a place in the final.

The squad Hoddle inherited from Venables is bristling with confidence and youthful talent. How perfect, then, that his managerial debut on the international stage should involve nothing more taxing than a run-out against eastern European minnows Moldova.

Not so, says Hoddle, who has wisely been at pains to cool down the nation's burning World Cup hopes, warning that England face an autumn of hard work.

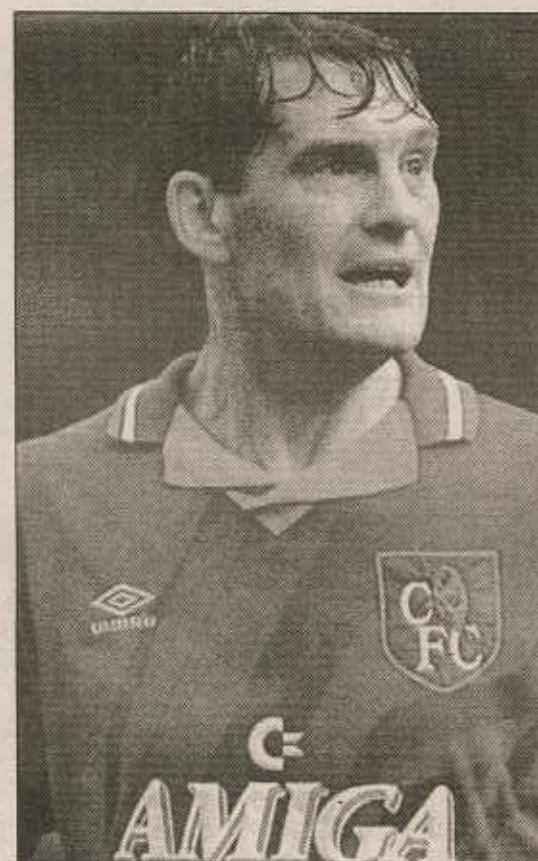
With only the winners

guaranteed a place in the 1998 finals in France, Hoddle knows it is going to be tough to progress automatically from a group which also includes Italy, Poland and Georgia.

And having to follow the popular Venables with a

squad which has grown a little complacent in the friendly environment of Wembley, was never going to be easy for the former Chelsea boss.

Moldova beat Wales two years ago and even stretched the mighty Germans to the limit.



Glenn Hoddle: Had a solid win in his first outing as England manager.

Scotland open promisingly

Scotland grabbed a precious away point after holding Austria to a goalless draw with a gutsy display in Vienna on the weekend as they opened their 1998 World Cup qualifying campaign.

But as Craig Brown's stalwarts came away from their first major excursion of the new season with the feeling of a job well done, there was doom and gloom in Belfast as Northern Ireland began their program disastrously by going down 1-0 at home to Ukraine.

With European champions Germany and the talented Portuguese in their Group Nine, Bryan Hamilton's men now have a mountain to climb following Sergei Rebrov's goal 11 minutes from the end.

Wales kept up their hopes of making it to the finals in France by hitting six goals without reply in Cardiff as they completed their double over minnows San Marino, although star winger Ryan Giggs picked up a booking which rules him out of the next qualifier against Holland.

And the Republic of Ireland were also amongst the goals as they buried the unhappy memories of last year's goalless draw in Vaduz which cost them a place in Euro 96. This time they handed Liechtenstein's part-timers a 5-0 drubbing in Vaduz.

Mick McCarthy's new-look side romped to victory at the picturesque Eschen Sportpark

with four goals in the opening 20 minutes.

Urged on by more than a thousand travelling Irish fans, the visitors went ahead after five minutes through Aston Villa's Andy Townsend.

Two minutes later, Keith O'Neill of Norwich notched Ireland's second before a brace from Sunderland's Niall Quinn and one from Leeds' Ian Harte.

Also in Group Eight, Romania defeated Lithuania 3-0 in Bucharest, Chelsea's Dan Petrescu was among the scorers.

Elsewhere, Northern Ireland were not the only side licking their wounds after the weekend's action.

Switzerland, who qualified for the 1994 finals in the United States, as well as this summer's Euro 96, crashed to an astonishing 1-0 defeat in Azerbaijan in Group Three to blow that group wide open.

The Azeris had previously been thrashed 5-0 in Norway.

And even stylish Portugal also had little to celebrate as they hung on grimly for a 0-0 draw in Armenia.

Belgium, Group Seven rivals of the Welsh, got off the mark with a 2-1 win at home to Turkey with goals from Marc Degruyze and Luis Oliveira.

And Belarus, pitched in with the Scots in Group Four, beat Estonia 1-0 in Minsk, the goal coming from Vladimir Makovsky.

Rejection surprise for City

Former Arsenal manager George Graham has turned down an offer to take over at Manchester City.

"After careful thought I have decided to decline their very fair offer," said Graham.

"The simple reason is that I do not think it is right for me at this time. I would like to take this opportunity to wish City and their supporters every success for the future."

Graham, who has been out of the game since being sacked by Arsenal 18 months ago, and recently completed a one-year ban for accepting unsolicited gifts, would make no other comment.

Graham's announcement clearly caught Manchester City by surprise.

"I don't know anything about any offer to him. He seemed to have selected himself," commented City secretary Bernard Halford.

Halford added that chairman Francis Lee would probably make a statement later today outlining City's position and the selection process to fill the vacancy.

Former Republic of Ireland boss Jack Charlton is the latest person to be linked with the job although Bruce Rioch could now become the front runner.

Charlton, whose feats as manager of Middlesbrough, Sheffield Wednesday and Newcastle did not match those at international level, has been out of football since quitting the Republic in December.

Rioch, sacked by Arsenal five days before the start of the new season, was a big success with Bolton and has a good knowledge of division one.

He was also a team-mate of Lee during his playing days with Derby County.



McGHEE SLATES TAYLOR

Graham Taylor wasn't mentioned by name. But the former England manager and his coaching techniques are being fiercely condemned by the man who replaced him last season at Wolves, the wealthy division one club struggling to return to the top flight.

"The squad I inherited were short of both physical and mental strength and were under-coached," said Mark McGhee, who took over from Taylor at Molineux in December.

"They displayed practically no desire to try and appreciate tactics or give any effort to understanding the problems that they could encounter from the opposition or that they in turn could cause the opposition."

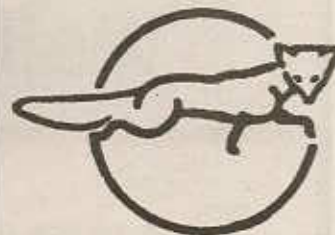
Wolves were close to the relegation zone when Taylor quit and, even under McGhee, slipped down to 20th of the 24 teams by the season's end. The new manager is convinced that won't happen again. Writing in a recent Wolves magazine, McGhee said, "I have asked them to take more responsibility for their fitness, to be more aware of their duty to each other, to the club and to the public."

"I am convinced this message has got through to them."

Former England striker Steve Bull hit four goals in his first two outings but failed to score last Wednesday.



Graham Taylor: Former England and Wolverhampton Manager. Highly criticised by his successor because of the Wolves players' lack of physical and mental strength.



JOHNNY WALKER CUP DRAW



Sun Sep 8 **Perry Park, Mayne — 3pm**
Brisbane Strikers **v** **Brisbane Lions**

Sun Sep 15 **Hindmarsh Stadium, Adelaide — 5.30pm**
Collingwood Warriors **v** **SA, SF Representative XI**

Sun Sep 15 **Hindmarsh Stadium — 7.30pm**
Adelaide City **v** **West Adelaide**

Sat Sep 7 **Bruce Stadium, ACT — 7.00pm**
Canberra Cosmos **v** **Melbourne Knights**

Thu Sep 12 **Jack McLaughlin, Edgeworth — 7.00pm**
NNSW Representative XI **v** **Newcastle Breakers**

Fri Sep 6 **Bob Jane Stadium, Albert Pk — 7.30pm**
South Melbourne **v** **Gippsland Falcons**

Fri Sep 6 **Sydney United Sports Centre — 7.30pm**
UTS Olympic **v** **Sydney United**

Wed Sep 4 **Balls Paddock, Bulli — 7.30pm**
Wollongong City **v** **Marconi Fairfield**

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